PLASTIC MUSE: Top designers pay tribute as Barbie hits the Big 5-0 | **Page 27**

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Thursday

MUSADEQ SADEQ/AP

Security forces search for militants in Kabul.

Kabul Attack: Taliban kill 20 in coordinated bombings | 9

Common Ground: Israeli foes share views on Hamas | 10

Last Call? Favre hangs it up after 18 NFL seasons | 13

WeekendPass

Soft Touch: D.C. now boasts an *'Avenue Q.'* The Tony-winning, potty-mouthed puppets come to the Warner Theatre. >> INSIDE

Deal Set on $790B Stimulus

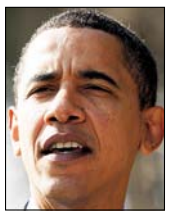
Speedy compromise clears way for economic recovery plan

WASHINGTON | Moving with lightning speed, Congress and the White House agreed Wednesday on a compromise $790 billion economic stimulus bill designed to create millions of jobs in a nation reeling from recession. President Obama could sign the measure within days.

"More than one-third of this bill is dedicated to providing tax relief for middle-class families, cutting taxes for 95 percent of American workers," said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid at a Capitol news conference.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., Reid's partner in negotiations over more than 24 hours, initially withheld public approval in a lingering dispute over federal funding for schools. But her spokesman, Brendan Daly, said more than two hours after Reid's announcement, "We are moving forward with this legislation, which will create or save more than 3 million jobs."

Obama estimated 3.5 million jobs in his own celebration of the deal. He said it would "get our economy back on track."



Obama

The emerging legislation is at the core of Obama's economic recovery program, and includes help for victims of the recession in the form of expanded unemployment benefits, food stamps, health coverage and more, as well as billions for states that face the prospect of making deep cuts in school aid and other programs. DAVID ESPO (AP)

Panel Gets No Answers From Peanut Exec

MARK WILSON/GETTY IMAGES

ROASTED: Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore., challenges Stewart Parnell, owner of the Peanut Corp. of America, to eat products made with Peanut Corp. nuts during a Capitol Hill hearing Wednesday. Nine deaths have been blamed on salmonella-tained nuts from Peanut Corp. Parnell refused to answer any questions.

pollcenter DO YOU THINK THE PUBLIC AND MEDIA HAVE BEEN TOO CRITICAL OF THE OCTUPLET MOM? (A) YES (B) NO

TO CAST YOUR VOTE, VISIT **EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM** OR TEXT **A** FOR 'YES' OR **B** FOR 'NO' TO 98999. FOR WEDNESDAY'S POLL RESULTS, SEE PAGE 28

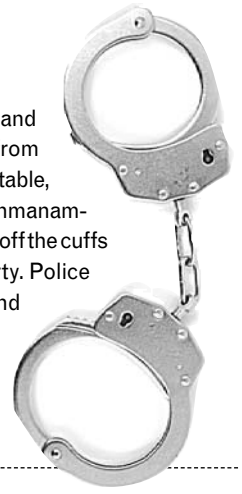
THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
54 | 36	54 | 32	42 | 31

TODAY: A partly sunny day with high winds and cooler temperatures | 30

eyeOpeners

IRONY

Should've Gone to a Locksmith



A Massachusetts man who walked into a police station and asked for help removing a pair of handcuffs dangling from one wrist ended up wearing another pair instead. Barnstable, Mass., police Sgt. Sean Sweeney said 21-year-old Allahmanamjad Barbel showed up Tuesday claiming he couldn't get off the cuffs his sister had slipped on him at a child's birthday party. Police ran Barbel's name through the state warrant system and discovered he had outstanding warrants on charges of driving with a suspended license and leaving the scene of an accident, among other things. They never confirmed his story about the party. (AP)

INTIMIDATION

'No, Roy, You Can Just Wait Outside'

Snellville, Ga., politics have reached a low point. Jerry Oberholtzer, the mayor of the Atlanta suburb, has been asking for police escorts to the restroom in City Hall after a verbal altercation with city council member Robert Jenkins a few months ago. Oberholtzer says he no longer feels comfortable around Jenkins, who says the mayor has no reason to worry for his physical safety and should only "fear me as a political opponent." The mayor has even had police Chief Roy Whitehead escort him to the restroom. (AP)

JEFF J MITCHELL/GETTY IMAGES

PREPARATIONS

Spirits of Adventure

Scotland is throwing a party of explosive proportions — a fete lauding its greatest contributions to world culture: Scotch whisky, Robert Burns, Scotch whisky, tartan, Scotch whisky, golf and Scotch whisky. Part of the celebration is Whisky Month, during which Scotch whisky lovers can drink the finest scotch single malt and not remember it the next day. Here, a Scottish cooper constructs a cask (yes, the fire is intentional) in which Scotch whisky will be aged to perfection. (EXPRESS)

OUCH

Trigger-Unhappy

A man who reached into his pocket to pay for lunch at a hospital cafeteria in Lafayette, Colo., on Tuesday accidentally shot himself with the gun in his pocket. Officials said 59-year-old Steve Tapp of Thornton was treated at Exempla Good Samaritan Medical Center and released. No one else was hurt. Officials said Tapp, who was visiting family at the hospital, shot himself in the right thigh. Security guards responded and took the gun. The hospital forbids guns, although no sign declaring such a prohibition was posted. (AP)

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SWEET SCIENCE: Cotton candy has delighted children for a century, and now it's catching on with scientists. The flossy stuff may be just right for creating networks of blood vessels within laboratory-grown bones, skin, muscles or fat for breast reconstruction, researchers have found.

Nation

In Brief

CAROLYN KASTER/AP FILE

A study suggests smokers often need a financial incentive to drop the habit.

NEW YORK

Study: Paying Smokers To Quit Boosts Success Rate

Dangling enough dollars in front of smokers who want to quit helps many more succeed, an experiment with hundreds of General Electric Co. workers indicates. Among those paid up to $750 to quit and stay off cigarettes, 15 percent were still tobacco-free about a year later, researchers found. That may not sound like much, but it's three times the success rate of a comparison group that received no such bonuses. (AP)

NEW YORK

Van Drags a Pedestrian's Body 17 Miles on Highways

A pedestrian was hit by an SUV, and then was caught under a van and dragged nearly 17 miles through New York City early Wednesday before the driver realized what had happened, police said. The van drove on three major city highways before the driver stopped to check the vehicle. Police say no criminality is suspected in the fatal dragging. (AP)

Peanut Factory Owner Pleads Fifth

Incriminating e-mails from salmonella case are released at hearing

WASHINGTON | See the jar, the congressman challenged Stewart Parnell, holding up a container of the peanut seller's products and asking whether he'd dare eat them. Parnell pleaded the Fifth Amendment.

The owner of the peanut company at the heart of the massive salmonella recall refused to answer the lawmaker's questions — or any others — Wednesday about the bacteria-tainted products he defiantly told employees to ship to about 50 manufacturers of cookies, crackers and ice cream.

"Turn them loose," Parnell had told his plant manager in an internal e-mail disclosed at the House hearing. The e-mail referred to products that once were deemed contaminated but were cleared in a second test last year.

J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

Jeffrey Almer of Savage, Minn., testifies on Capitol Hill Wednesday. His mother, Shirley Mae Almer, 72, shown in a photo, died after eating tainted peanut butter.

Summoned by congressional subpoena, the owner of Peanut Corp. of America repeatedly invoked his right not to incriminate himself at the House Energy and Commerce subcommittee hearing on the salmonella outbreak that has sickened about 600 people, may be linked to nine deaths — the latest reported in Ohio on Wednesday — and resulted in one of the largest product recalls of more than 1,900 items.

Parnell sat stiffly, his hands folded in his lap at the witness table, as Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore., held up a clear jar of Parnell's company's products wrapped in crime-scene tape and asked whether he would eat them.

"Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, on advice of my counsel, I respectfully decline to answer your questions based on the protections afforded me under the U.S. Constitution," Parnell said.

Shortly after Parnell's appearance, a lab tester told the panel that the company discovered salmonella at its Blakely, Ga., plant as far back as 2006.

"Their behavior is criminal, in my opinion. I want to see jail time," said Jeffrey Almer, whose 72-year-old mother died Dec. 21 of salmonella poisoning after eating Peanut Corp.'s peanut butter. (AP)

HEARSAY | TOURISM

"When you make a casual, although not malevolent remark, it can have ramifications."

—LAS VEGAS MAYOR OSCAR GOODMAN, WHO SENT A LETTER TO PRESIDENT OBAMA SAYING HIS CRITICISM OF COMPANIES USING TAXPAYER MONEY TO VISIT LAS VEGAS IS HARMFUL TO THE CITY. GOODMAN SAID HE EXPECTS OBAMA TO "ADDRESS IT AND CORRECT IT."

NASA: Satellites Collide Over Siberia

CAPE CANAVERAL, FLA. | Two communications satellites have collided in the first-ever crash of two intact spacecraft in orbit, NASA said Wednesday.

The collision occurred Tuesday nearly 500 miles over Siberia. The crash produced debris clouds, and the magnitude of the situation won't be known for weeks, said NASA spokesman Kelly Humphries.

However, any risk to the international space station, which orbits below the collision course, is thought to be low. There also should be no danger to the upcoming space shuttle flight, "but they're continuing to analyze any possible risk," Humphries said.

The collision involved an Iridium commercial satellite, which was launched in 1997, and a Russian satellite launched in 1993 and believed to be nonfunctioning.

There have been four other cases in which space objects have collided accidentally in orbit, NASA said. But those were considered minor events and involved parts of spent rockets or small satellites. (AP)

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LAWRENCE JACKSON/AP

Bank of America Chairman and CEO Ken Lewis, center, Bank of New York Mellon Chairman and CEO Robert Kelly, left, and other bank executives testify on Capitol Hill.

Chastised Bankers Try to Repair Image

Executives say bailout billions have boosted lending to consumers

WASHINGTON | The nation's top bankers came to account for themselves Wednesday to a wary public, displaying a blend of financial might and humility as they pledged to build public trust with greater lending and fewer perks.

"We're Americans first and bankers second," John Stumpf, president and chief executive of Wells Fargo & Co., told a House committee.

"As an industry, we clearly made mistakes," added John Mack, chairman and CEO of Morgan Stanley.

Eight chief executives sat at a witness table for more than six hours Wednesday assuring lawmakers that an infusion last fall of $165 billion in taxpayer money to their banks was good for consumers. The money was part of a $700 billion financial rescue approved by Congress in October.

Lending has increased, they told the House Financial Services Committee, and CEO bonuses have been eliminated.

And while some lawmakers said they hoped that by their testimony the bankers could gain some credibility, some of their inquisitors weren't convinced.

"America doesn't trust you anymore," declared Rep. Michael Capuano, D-N.J.

> "As an industry, we clearly made mistakes."
>
> **JOHN MACK**, MORGAN STANLEY CEO

To a man — and, yes, all eight CEOs are male — the executives said they would pay back the taxpayer money by 2012 or sooner, if they could help it.

The bankers represented the eight firms that received capital injections last fall in hopes that the money would unfreeze credit and lead to more lending.

Joining Stumpf and Mack were CEOs from the Goldman Sachs Group Inc., Bank of America Corp., Citigroup Inc., JP Morgan Chase & Co., State Street Corp. and the Bank of New York Mellon.

JIM KUHNHENN (AP)

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Nation

PARTY TALK: Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal has been tapped to deliver the Republican response to President Obama's speech to Congress Feb. 24. Jindal will speak in a nationally televised address from Baton Rouge, La., immediately after the address.

At Least 8 Killed in Okla. Tornado

Most of the dead were found at a trailer park with no escape route

LONE GROVE, OKLA. | Rescuers sorted through bricks and shattered plywood Wednesday in search of more victims of a deadly tornado that blasted through a small Oklahoma town where many people in a trailer park had nowhere to escape.

Some people were killed by flying debris. One man died when a pickup truck fell on him. At least eight bodies were recovered.

There were also miraculous tales of survival: People taking shelter in a closet pulled a woman to safety after the tornado blew part of the roof off and threatened to carry her away. Another woman was found injured but alive beneath an overturned mobile home.

CHRIS LANDSBERGER/AP

Hazel Wright, left, and her daughter, Karen Arms, assess the damage at Arms' house Wednesday in Edmond, Okla., after a tornado nearly leveled the structure.

Residents of Lone Grove, a town of 4,600 about 100 miles south of Oklahoma City, awoke Wednesday to find much of their community in ruins.

Shirley Mose was not at home when the tornado struck, but she returned to find her house destroyed and her pickup truck wrecked.

"I had a little Chihuahua that stayed in there," Mose said. "We found her bed, but not her. I guess she's gone."

The Lone Grove twister was among a cluster of unusual February tornados that touched down Tuesday in Oklahoma. A half-dozen homes and several businesses were also damaged in Oklahoma City and suburban Edmond, but no serious injuries were reported there.

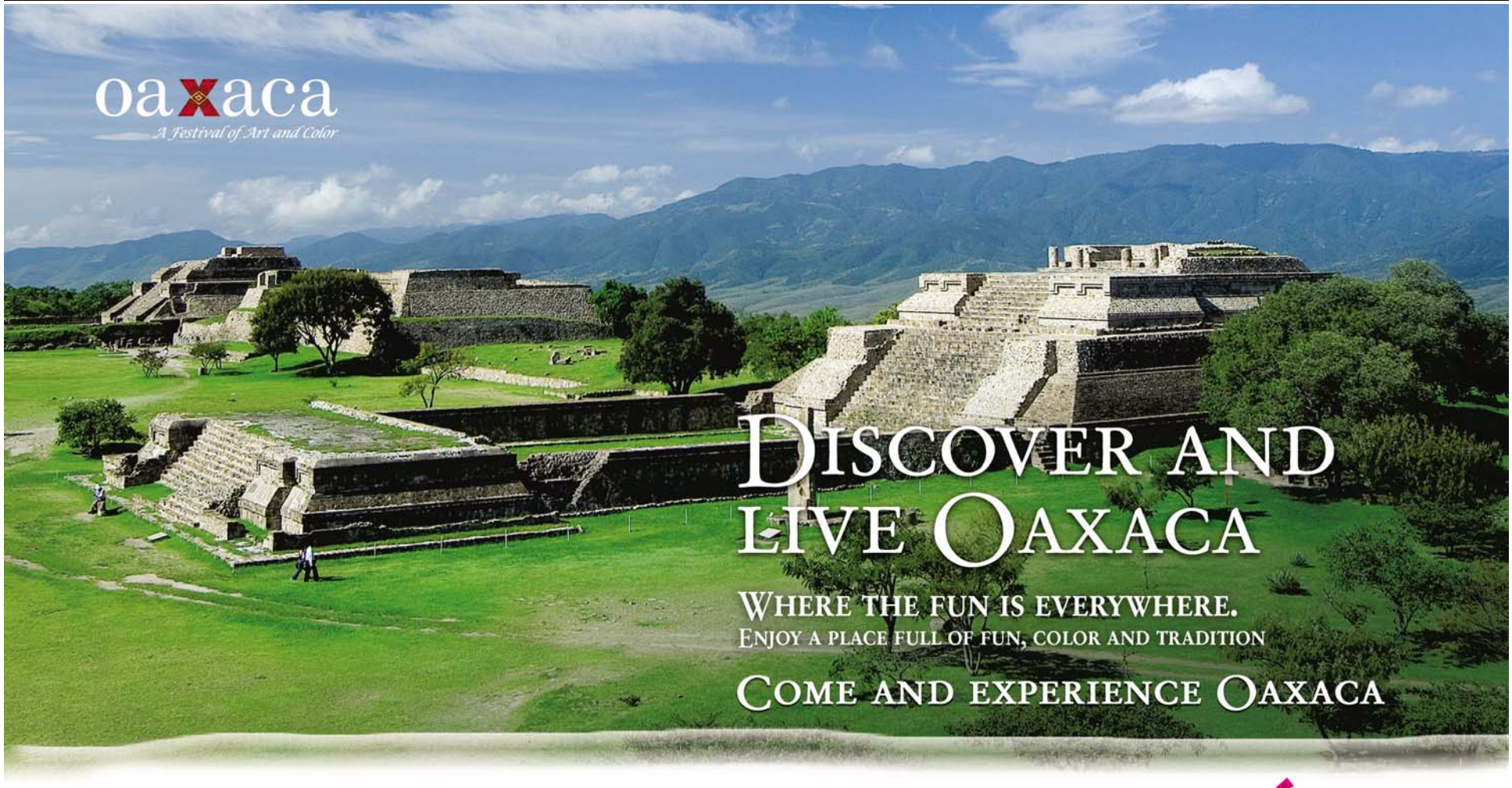
Lone Grove firefighters methodically searched each damaged or destroyed structure, spray-painting a large "X" on homes after inspection. Residents were then allowed to check for belongings.

Authorities gave as much as 35 minutes' warning that a twister was approaching.

Most of the bodies were found in the mobile home wreckage. On Wednesday, all that was visible of the mobile homes was the cinder blocks they sat on. Trees were uprooted or snapped in half. Cars were flung around like toys. Hoods of vehicles were ripped off. And debris was scattered everywhere.

Cherokee Ballard, a spokeswoman for the state medical examiner's office, said some of the victims appeared to have been inside their homes when the tornado hit. Others had fled outdoors.

"One victim was found underneath a pickup truck the tornado had lifted and dropped on him," Ballard said. TIM TALLEY (AP)



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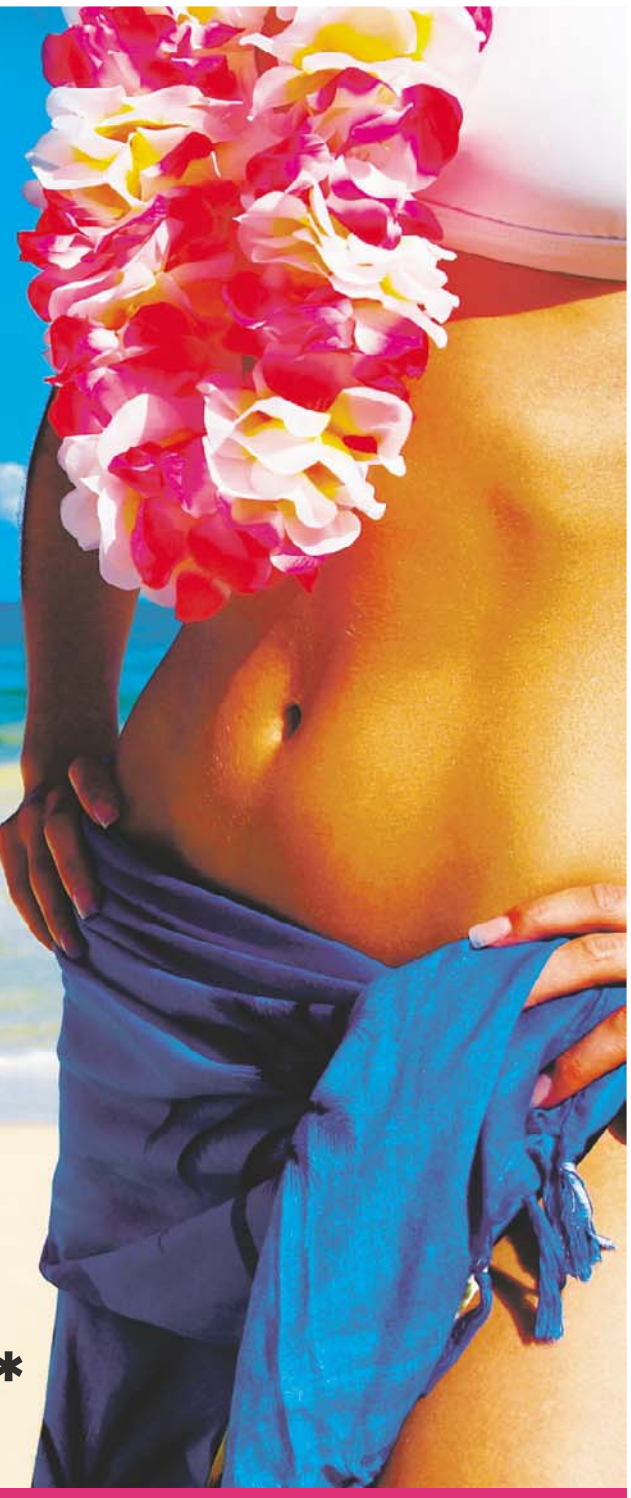

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ROYAL WEB: Queen Elizabeth II is offering her subjects the option of applying for a job at her palace through her newly revamped Web site, royal officials said Thursday. Launched in 1997, the British queen's site will now include integration with Google Maps.

World

Coordinated Raids Kill 20 in Kabul

Taliban operatives attack 3 buildings on eve of U.S. envoy's visit

AHMAD MASSOUD/AP

Workers look at a building in a correctional department compound that was damaged in a suicide attack in Kabul, Afghanistan.

KABUL | Moments before the assault, the Taliban operatives pulled out their mobile phones and sent three text messages.

The men, armed with guns and grenades, asked their militant leaders in Pakistan for one final blessing. Then they unleashed a coordinated assault Wednesday morning on the Justice Ministry, the Education Ministry, and a correctional department, killing 20 people and wounding 57, Afghan officials said.

The audacious attack in the heavily fortified capital underscored the reach of the Taliban outside their mountainous strongholds and the challenges President Obama will face as he increases America's focus — and troop levels — in Afghanistan.

The assault came just one day before a planned visit by Richard Holbrooke, Obama's special envoy to the region, and reinforced the perception that security in Afghanistan is rapidly deteriorating.

At the Justice Ministry, five men with assault rifles and hand grenades stormed the downtown Kabul compound, killing two guards. Ministry guards shot and killed one attacker, but the rest opened fire on workers. They killed 10 employees and a police officer.

Ministry workers jumped out of second-floor windows to escape the advancing gunmen.

"I came out of my office to see what was going on, and I saw a man with an AK-47 shooting at every employee he saw in the hall," said ministry worker Nazir Mohammad.

Only a half-mile down the road, an attacker in a suicide vest tried to force his way into the Education Ministry, but ministry guards fatally shot him before he could enter.

Meanwhile, across town, two attackers in suicide vests entered a correctional department compound, killing six police officers. (AP)

Israel Foes Share View On Hamas

Coalition government is likely to take tough line vs. militants, Iran

JERUSALEM | Israel's new coalition government — whether led by hard-line Benjamin Netanyahu or his moderate rival Tzipi Livni — is likely to take a tough line on two burning issues: Hamas and Iran.

As they began courting potential coalition partners Wednesday, two scenarios took shape: an alliance of hawks who would stall peace efforts or a power-sharing government.

Netanyahu

Livni

With only a few thousand votes still to be counted, Livni's Kadima Party had one more seat in parliament than Netanyahu's Likud. But Netanyahu's natural allies on the right have a clear majority of 65 in the 120-seat parliament, giving him the edge in forming a coalition.

The two offer vastly different approaches when it comes to the Palestinians: Livni supports giving up territory for a Palestinian state, while Netanyahu has said he considers current U.S.-backed Mideast peace talks a waste of time.

However, when it comes to Hamas militants, both threaten military action against Hamas if rocket fire from Gaza persists.

And both leaders have hinted that military action might be necessary to prevent Iran from obtaining an atomic weapon. AMY TEIBEL (AP)

Long path to leadership

➜ Both Netanyahu and Livni have begun to try to woo smaller parties as each tries to set up coalition governments. | Today's A Section

IN The Washington Post

Australia Animal Toll in 'Millions'

SYDNEY | Kangaroo corpses lay scattered by the roadsides while wombats that survived the wildfire's onslaught emerged from their underground burrows to find blackened earth and nothing to eat.

Wildlife rescuers on Wednesday worked frantically to help the animals that made it through Australia's worst-ever wildfires.

The official human death toll stood at 181 from the weekend's fires, and authorities said it would exceed 200. The scope of the wildlife devastation was likely to be enormous, said Jon Rowdon, president of the rescue group Wildlife Victoria.

"There's no doubt across that scale of landscape and given the intensity of the fires, millions of animals would have been killed," he said. KRISTEN GELINEAU (AP)

Bombers Target Shiites in Baghdad

At least 12 are killed in blasts as pilgrims head to religious event

HADI MIZBAN/AP

Iraqi and American soldiers inspect the aftermath of a car bombing in Baghdad, Iraq, on Wednesday. At least 12 people were killed and 40 were injured in blasts.

BAGHDAD | Bombs struck Shiite pilgrims heading to religious ceremonies Wednesday, killing at least 12 people and wounding more than 40, officials said. Fearing new sectarian tension, a U.N. official urged Iraqis not to respond to the "provocations of extremists."

The deadliest blast occurred near a bus station and outdoor market in the southwestern Baghdad neighborhood of Bayaa, where pilgrims were preparing to board buses for annual Shiite rituals south of the capital.

Iraqi military spokesman Maj. Gen. Qassim al-Moussawi said 10 people were killed and 32 wounded in a single blast, which was caused by a bomb hidden in a truck.

An Interior Ministry official said 17 people were killed by two bombs in the Bayaa market area. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not supposed to release information to media.

It was not possible to reconcile the difference conclusively, and Iraqi police kept journalists away from the bombing site. ROBERT H. REID (AP)

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World

TSVANGIRAYI MUKWAZHI/AP

Morgan Tsvangirai, left, is sworn in as Zimbabwe's prime minister by his longtime rival, President Robert Mugabe, right, in Harare, Zimbabwe, on Wednesday.

Mugabe Rival Is Zimbabwe's PM

President, longtime foe must work together in unity government

HARARE, ZIMBABWE | Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe swore in his longtime rival as prime minister Wednesday, conceding they must work together to rescue their country from economic and humanitarian disaster.

The image of Mugabe standing to administer Morgan Tsvangirai's oath himself was extraordinary given the history of state-sponsored violence against the opposition in Zimbabwe and the determination Mugabe has shown in nearly three decades to hold onto every shred of power.

Tsvangirai has been beaten and was once nearly thrown from a 10th-floor window by suspected government thugs. He acknowledged in a speech after Wednesday's ceremony that many don't think the partnership will work, but said it was the "only viable arrangement."

Later, at a celebration rally attended by about 15,000 supporters, Tsvangirai pledged to reopen schools that are closed because teachers can't afford bus fare and to fight a cholera epidemic blamed on the cash-strapped government's neglect of hospitals and sanitation.

He drew the biggest cheers when he said all government workers — from teachers to soldiers — would be paid in hard currency starting next month to shield them from the world's highest inflation rate. He did not say how the government would afford that.

People in the crowd threw Zimbabwe dollars like confetti, expressing their contempt for the nearly worthless currency. ANGUS SHAW (AP)

22 Lose Vision After Surgery in India

LUCKNOW, INDIA | At least 22 elderly people in northern India have lost vision in one or both of their eyes after undergoing free cataract surgery at a state-owned clinic, a government official said Wednesday.

Health Minister Anant Kumar Singh said initial reports suggested contaminated eye drops used during surgery may have been the cause.

The case marks the second time in three months that mass blindness has been reported after free government surgeries in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Nine people went blind after treatment in December. (AP)

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31 | **The percentage increase of homes sales** in Loudoun County in January, according to WTOP. The Dulles Area Association of Realtors says countywide, contracts were finalized on 284 homes in January, compared to 216 a year earlier.

Local

WASHINGTON | STUDENTS PROTEST TUITION HIKE

MARVIN JOSEPH/TWP

SAVE OUR SCHOOL: Shakira Watford, center, and Cottrell Martin, right, and others protest a proposed tuition increase of about 85 percent outside the University of the District of Columbia administration building Wednesday.

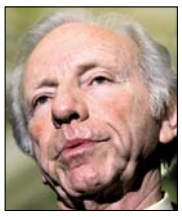
Panel OKs D.C. House Seat

Legislation may not reach the Senate floor for a vote for weeks

A Senate committee approved a bill Wednesday that would give the District its first full seat in the House of Representatives, setting up a crucial vote by the full chamber sometime in the coming months.

The Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee passed the legislation 11-1 at its first business meeting in the new Congress. The lone "no" vote was cast by Sen. John McCain of Arizona, the 2008 Republican presidential nominee.

It's not clear when the legislation will reach the Senate floor for what is likely to be the key vote on the measure. In 2007, a similar bill died in the Senate after falling three votes short of the 60 needed to head off a filibuster. But proponents believe they are now in better shape thanks to Democratic gains in the last election.



Lieberman

Reid

Committee chairman Joe Lieberman, I-Conn., said in an opening statement that "we hope and believe this is our year" to get the voting rights bill approved. The bill is expected to pass the House, as it did two years ago.

The bill would permanently expand the 435-member House by two seats. One would go to the overwhelmingly Democratic District, and the other to the state next in line to pick up a seat based on population. For the next few years, that state would be Utah, which leans Republican.

Democrats, who generally support the D.C. vote legislation, currently hold a 58-41 advantage in the Senate. Many Republicans are opposed to the bill, saying it violates the Constitution and could lead eventually to two Senate seats for the District.

Jim Manley, a spokesman for Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said the senator "will try and get it to the floor as quickly as we can." That could take weeks, though, because of a jammed congressional schedule. MARY BETH SHERIDAN (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Catania to Give Lectures at GWU

WASHINGTON | D.C. Council member David Catania says he plans to teach public health courses at George Washington University.

Catania says he was appointed as a lecturer at the university's School of Public Health and Health Services. He will give periodic lectures on public health, law and policy.

Catania heads the council's health committee.

Catania

He says he's looking forward to sharing experiences from the District of Columbia with students.

TheCcouncil member says he won't be compensated, avoiding any conflict of interest.

The Lotteries

Wednesday, Feb. 11

DISTRICT

Mid-day Lucky Numbers	0-6-8
Evening Lucky Numbers (Tues.)	3-5-4
Mid-day DC 4	5-5-0-7
Evening DC 4 (Tues.)	0-1-6-6
Rolling Cash Five (Tues.)	7-9-13-16-27
Daily 6 (Tues.)	5-12-16-21-33-35 Bonus: 17

MARYLAND

Mid-day Pick 3	6-7-4
Evening Pick 3 (Tues.)	8-0-9
Mid-day Pick 4	2-8-5-5
Evening Pick 4 (Tues.)	6-1-9-1
Match 5 (Tues.)	12-13-20-23-30 Bonus: 35

VIRGINIA

Mid-day Pick 3 (Wed.)	3-2-1
Evening Pick 3 (Tues.)	2-0-3
Mid-day Pick 4 (Wed.)	6-3-9-7
Evening Pick 4 (Tues.)	8-1-8-5
Mid-day Cash 5 (Wed.)	6-12-22-27-28
Evening Cash 5 (Tues.)	3-15-22-26-32

MULTI-STATE GAMES

Mega Millions (Tues.)	18-29-38-43-47
Mega Ball	7

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a lottery ticket location or a lottery claims office. Drawings that occur after Express's deadline will be published two days later.

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Consider participating if you or your children are...
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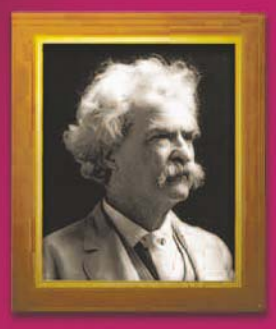
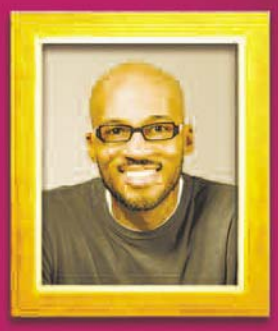


Mark Twain
Author
(1835-1910)

Harriet Tubman
Abolitionist
(c.1820-1913)



Kymone Freeman
Vaccine Trial Participant
(Present day)

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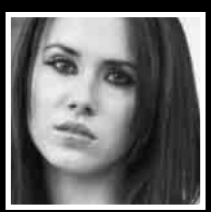
Does Depression Run In Your Family?



Do you have a child, parent or sibling with depression? If so, you may be interested in participating in research to better understand the causes of depression. Healthy volunteers with a family history of depression are needed for studies being conducted at the National Institute of Mental Health using Positron Emission Tomography (PET) & Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI).

Participants should be:
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- Free of serious medical conditions
- Free of head trauma
- Otherwise medically healthy

The study includes medical and psychiatric evaluations.
Financial compensation & transportation reimbursement provided.

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NIMH National Institute of Mental Health

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Money

Madoff's Spouse Withdrew Millions

Financier's wife took $15M from N.Y. firm before he was arrested

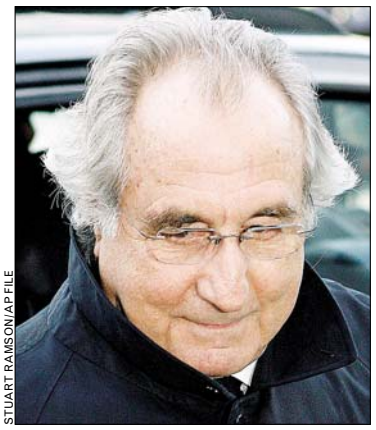
BOSTON | The wife of disgraced money manager Bernard Madoff withdrew more than $15 million from a firm co-owned by her husband — including $10 million the day their children turned her husband over to authorities for overseeing an alleged $50 billion Ponzi scheme, the top securities regulator in Massachusetts said Wednesday.

Secretary of State William Galvin said Ruth Madoff, 67, withdrew $5.5 million on Nov. 25 and $10 million on Dec. 10 — the day before Bernard Madoff was arrested — from Cohmad Securities Corp., a firm co-owned by her husband.

The secretary cited wire transfer records produced by Cohmad as proof of the withdrawals. They came as Madoffs' scheme was unraveling as investors filed $7 billion worth of redemption requests.

"We're not accusing [Ruth Madoff] of anything wrong," Galvin spokesman Brian McNiff said.

Galvin said the discovery of Ruth Madoff's withdrawals raises questions about whether there was a broader conspiracy behind Bernard Madoff's actions. GLEN JOHNSON (AP)



STUART RAMSON/AP FILE

Bernard Madoff is being held under house arrest in his New York apartment.

ATLANTA | HIRE PURPOSE

RICH ADDICKS/AP

NO CUTS: Thousands wait on Wednesday for a federal government job fair at the Atlanta Federal Center. The fair was for jobs with federal agencies such as the Justice Department, the Labor Department and the FBI.

WISHY-WASHY: Bode Miller is unlikely to take another shot at the Olympics. The American skier said in an interview with Universalsports.com Wednesday that he's leaning toward retiring at the end of this season but hasn't completely ruled out the 2010 Olympic Games.

Favre Calls It Quits

39-year-old QB steps away from the game after 18 NFL seasons

NFL | Brett Favre's done with football — again. The 39-year-old quarterback called the New York Jets on Wednesday morning to say he's retiring after 18 seasons, ending a record-setting career in which he became one of the NFL's all-time greats.

> "We were hoping to get one good year out of Brett Favre."
>
> **WOODY JOHNSON**, JETS OWNER

"He felt he had given us everything he had," general manager Mike Tannenbaum said, "and it was time for him to move on."

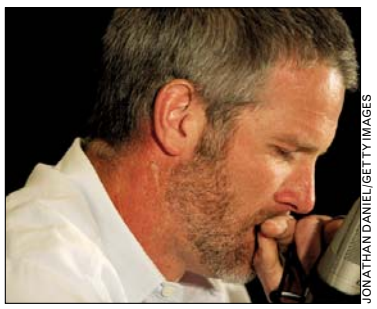
Favre, who retired last March only to return with the Jets, kept this goodbye simple — no tearful farewell or jam-packed news conference.

His decision came six weeks after his only season with the Jets ended in disappointment as New York failed to make the playoffs.

In an e-mail to ESPN, Favre said he had no regrets about finishing his career in New York and praised Tannenbaum, owner Woody Johnson and fired coach Eric Mangini.

DON EMMERT/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Favre and the Packers won Super Bowl XXXI against the New England Patriots in New Orleans, La. Favre completed 14 of 27 passes for 246 yards and two TDs.



JONATHAN DANIEL/GETTY IMAGES

Brett Favre announces his retirement at a press conference at Lambeau Field March 6, 2008, in Green Bay, Wis.

"My time with the Jets was short, but I'm honored to be given that chance," Favre wrote in the e-mail.

If this is indeed it for Favre, he leaves the game with a slew of records, including career touchown passes (464), completions (5,720), yards passing (65,127), regular-season victories (169) and interceptions (310).

"With Brett, there was always the possibility that he wouldn't play the second year," Johnson said. "We were hoping to get one good year out of Brett Favre. We picked him based on, in our opinion, his giving us the best chance to win last season. We were disappointed not to have made the Super Bowl, but we did some very good things with Brett."

Favre had two years left on his contract and was due to receive $13 million for next season. DENNIS WASZAK JR. (AP)

KEVIN C. COX/GETTY IMAGES

Favre played one season for the New York Jets, leading them to a 9-7 record. He finished with 3,472 yards passing and 22 touchdowns and 22 interceptions, his most ever.

ALL-TIME GREAT

Brett Favre retires with his name at the top of seven career statistical categories as an NFL QB:

- Career passing yards: 65,127
- Career passing attempts: 9,280
- Career completions: 5,720
- Career TD passes: 464
- Career interceptions: 310
- All-time QB wins: 169
- Started 269 consecutive games (291 including playoffs), an NFL record for a QB
- Three-time NFL MVP (1995-1997)

MOE DOIRON/AP

Roberto Alomar, left — who once spit on umpire John Hirschbeck, right, after an ejection in 1996, above — is accused of having unprotected sex despite knowing he had HIV.

Alomar's Ex Sues Over HIV Exposure

Ex-MLB player accused of having unsafe sex, not disclosing disease

BASEBALL | An ex-girlfriend of Roberto Alomar filed an explosive lawsuit alleging the former baseball star insisted on unprotected sex for four years despite having AIDS.

The lawsuit, filed Jan. 30 and transferred to U.S. District Court on Wednesday, contains accusations that could not be corroborated but portray Alomar as someone who demanded sex without a condom despite showing obvious signs of HIV.

Ilya Dall is seeking at least $15 million in punitive damages from the 41-year-old former infielder. Alomar, who was once engaged to tennis star Mary Pierce, spent 17 years in the majors and was one of the game's great second basemen.

Calls seeking comment to lawyers for Alomar and Dall were not immediately returned. Alomar lawyer Charles Bach told the New York Daily News the allegations are "frivolous and baseless."

Dall said the two began dating in spring 2002 and had unprotected sex for the next four years.

She said that on several occasions during that time, Alomar refused to get tested for HIV, despite severe fatigue, sores on his mouth and throat, a constant cough and an infection of the esophagus that is associated with AIDS.

She said Alomar finally relented and tested positive for HIV in February 2006.

Dall said she was angered by the disclosure and was tested herself; the result was negative. TOM HAYS (AP)

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Understanding our Ancestors
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Program: Gershwin, Tania Leon, Chopin, Rachmaninoff
Daniel Bernard Roumain, Samuel Barber
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Auditorium; 2100 C St., N.W.; (202) 334-2436
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Sports

1.2 **The amount, in billions of dollars,** the South African government expects to spend on stadium construction for the 2010 World Cup, said Finance Minister Trevor Manuel.

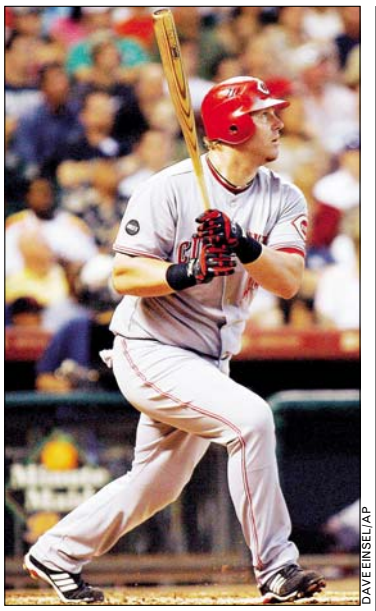
For Nats, It's A Dunn Deal

Sources: Team agrees to preliminary 2-year, $20M deal with hitter

The Washington Nationals have agreed to a preliminary deal with free agent Adam Dunn, fulfilling their offseason-long search for a left-handed power hitter. Two independent sources have told The Washingon Post that Dunn will sign a two-year deal. A press conference will take place Thursday. According to multiple reports, the two-year deal will pay Dunn $20 million.

Dunn's arrival gives Washington perhaps its most legitimate power threat since baseball returned to D.C. and ends the speculation about whether the club had a willingness to pay for higher-end free agents.

Since finishing 2008 with 117 home runs, the second-worst in the National League, Washington has targeted a left-hander capable of strengthening the lineup and, in turn, lessening the burden on the team's young nucleus.



DAVE EINSEL/AP

Dunn has had at least 40 home runs and 100 RBI in each of the last five seasons.

In each of the last five seasons, Dunn has played at least 152 games and hit at least 40 home runs. In four of those seasons — including 2008, which he split between Cincinnati and Arizona — Dunn also knocked in at least 100 runs.

Dunn was drafted in 1998, a second-round pick by then-Cincinnati General Manager Jim Bowden.

"Jim Bowden has been eyeing Adam Dunn for a long time," said Barry Larkin, a former teammate of Dunn's in Cincinnati and a Nats front office member from 2005 to 2008.

"You will see a lot of long, high home runs. Strap up your boots, because this guy can hit 'em. And that's an excitement that has not yet been seen in Washington."

For his career, Dunn has 278 home runs, a .247 average, a .381 OBP and a .518 SLG.

Dunn's most conspicuous shortcoming has always been his fielding, which is substandard no matter his position. Primarily a first baseman and left fielder, Dunn complicates the puzzle of Washington's depth chart.

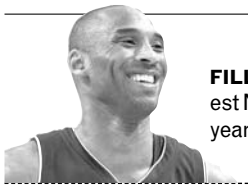
If Washington uses Dunn at first base — one possibility — he will supplant Nick Johnson, who missed much of last season with a wrist injury.

CHICO HARLAN (THE WASHINGTON POST)

SOCCER | ARGENTINA TOPPLES FRANCE, 2-0

CLAUDE PARIS/AP

JUST ENOUGH: Argentina's Jonas Gutierrez, left, challenges France's Bakary Sagna for the ball and scores a goal during their 2-0 win in a friendly match at the Velodrome stadium in Marseille, France, Wednesday. ✣ **Late Game:** The U.S.-Mexico World Cup qualifier ended after Express' deadline. For results, go to | **washingtonpost.com/sports.**



FILL IT UP: Kobe Bryant on Tuesday became the youngest NBA player to reach 23,000 points. Bryant, who is 30 years, 171 days old, scored 34 points against the Thunder.

Sports

ERIC GAY/AP

Nets point guard Devin Harris, left, is flying high after getting traded from Dallas for nine-time NBA All-Star Jason Kidd.

Forget Kidd; Harris Is Here

25-year-old Nets guard has emerged as one of NBA's best young stars

NBA | It hasn't taken Devin Harris long to make the New Jersey Nets forget Jason Kidd.

Less than a year after being acquired in the blockbuster deal that shipped Kidd to Dallas, the 25-year-old Harris has emerged as one of the NBA's top point guards.

This weekend, Harris will head to Phoenix to represent the East in his first All-Star Game. Kidd, the soon-to-be 36-year-old who led the Nets to two NBA Finals, was not named to the West squad, though he is a nine-time All-Star.

"You can't replace a player like Jason Kidd here," Harris said. "He is a Hall of Famer. He did great things for this organization, put this organization on the map. But you can't live up to the expectation of other people."

To be honest, Harris never doubted what he could do on the court, given the right circumstances.

With the Mavericks, Harris was never one of the primary options. His job was to distribute the ball to Dirk Nowitzki, Jason Terry and Josh Howard.

"It was tough because I was always trying to figure out where I fit in offensively with different players and whatnot," Harris said. However, the system limited Harris on the offensive end.

That has all ended with the Nets. Coach Lawrence Frank has given Harris the green light on offense and told him to take advantage of his ability to penetrate the lane, which also sets up his jump shot. Heading into the break, Harris' numbers are hard to match.

Harris is averaging career-bests with 21.8 points, 6.5 assists, 1.60 steals and 35.8 minutes in 47 starts. The University of Wisconsin product is the NBA's highest scoring point guard. He also holds the league's highest point increase from 2007- 2008 to 2008-2009 (minimum 50 games played last season) tallying seven more points than his 14.8 scoring average last season.

TOM CANAVAN (AP)

TODAY'S TV LINEUP

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL (7 P.M. ON ESPN) Notre Dame takes on the tall task of ending its seven-game Big East slide against No. 7 Louisville, which has lost just one game in the conference.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL (9 P.M. ON ESPN) No. 6 UCLA travels to No. 16 Arizona State in a rematch of last month's OT thriller that the Sun Devils won, 61-58.

NBA BASKETBALL (7:15 P.M. ON TNT) Ben Gordon and the Chicago Bulls host the up-and-down Miami Heat, which is led by Dwyane Wade's 28.4 points per game.

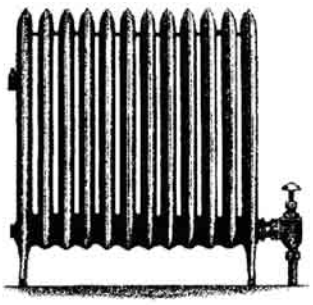
NBA BASKETBALL (9:30 P.M. ON TNT) The defending champion Boston Celtics continue their Western Conference swing against the Dallas Mavericks, who have won four out of their last five games.

HEARSAY | REFEREES

"That ... is the worst call that I have ever been a part of. I cannot imagine another worse call than that."

—**CAVALIERS COACH MIKE BROWN** SPEAKING ON A FOUL CALLED ON LEBRON JAMES TUESDAY NIGHT THAT ALLOWED THE PACERS TO WIN WITH .02 SECONDS LEFT.

OFF SEASON SPECIALS



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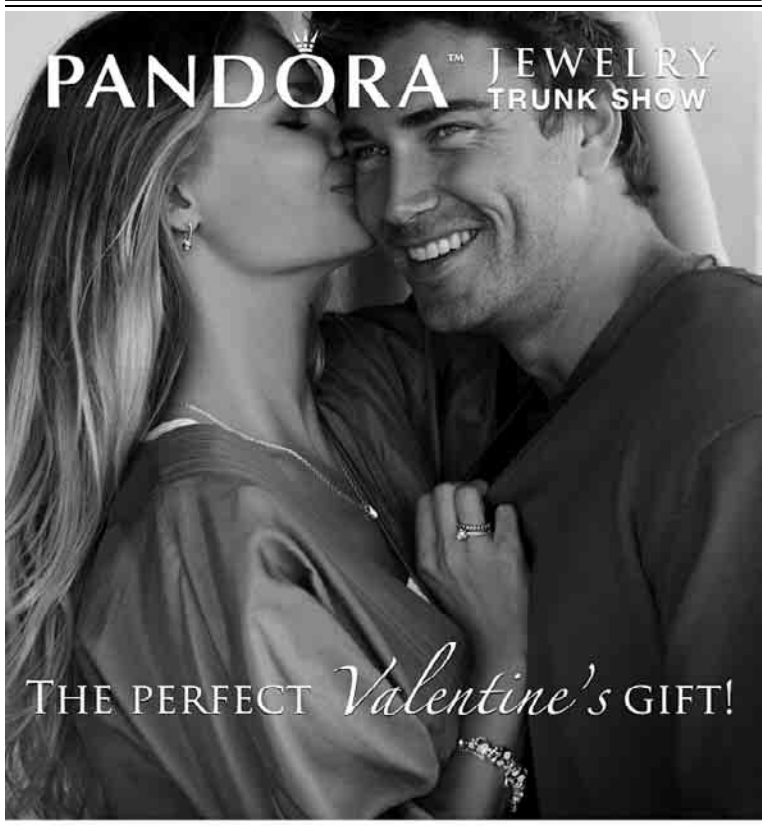

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ROOKIE MISTAKE: Zachary Levi, left, the star of the NBC action-comedy series "Chuck," has been cast in the film "Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel." Levi will play the cousin of Jason Lee's character, Dave Seville.

The Power of Imagery

DJ Spooky throws film in the mix to expose media's influence

FILM | To D.C. native Paul D. Miller, everything is a remix. To New York City-based DJ Spooky, everything is a remix. To the person editing this story, that second sentence was a remix of the first. Miller is DJ Spooky, and his work is the grandson of the manual cut-up techniques of Brion Gysin in the mid-20th century, the son of hip-hop-steeped art at the end of it, and one of the forefathers of 21st-century remixology.

With his live, multimedia reinterpretation of D.W. Griffith's pioneering 1915 movie, the pro-Ku Klux Klan "Birth of a Nation," Miller extended the possibilities of "versioning" into film. But as the DVD release of "Rebirth of a Nation" shows, versioning images to tell whatever story needs to be conveyed is a normal part of today's media cycle, and it was an integral part of Griffith's propaganda-steeped methodology. As a voice-over near the end of "Rebirth" states, "As these powerful images unfold, realize how D.W. Griffith embraced the power of media to be a political tool and how easily a revisionist history can be introduced into the mainstream."

"Rebirth of the Nation" makes the point that it was Griffith's groundbreaking film — the first movie ever screened in the White House — that was the catalyst for 20th-century media manipulation by the government and other agents of control. But it's the post-Sept. 11 wars, propagated by the Bush administration's mixture of fact and fiction, to which Miller draws a direct line: "The line between news and historical fact are more blurred than ever before," states a voice-over.

Miller employs new title cards embedded into the silent movie to explain what was really happening in history, on-screen graphics and effects to delineate or enhance certain scenes, and an ambient hip-hop-plus-strings score that's played by the Kronos Quartet. The result is a stimulating intellectual exercise that's also aesthetic pleasing in the extreme.

Extracting and highlighting small things that are more important than the sum of their parts is what a DJ does, and as the voice-over in "Rebirth" states, "The DJ-as-director concept is based around the idea that there are many different versions, or possibilities, to any story." Even Griffiths would agree with that: At the end of the DVD, he's shown in an old clip asking, "What is the truth?"

CHRISTOPHER PORTER (EXPRESS)

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To see clips from DJ Spooky's film, "Rebirth of a Nation," visit our Web site. | **ONLINE NOW**

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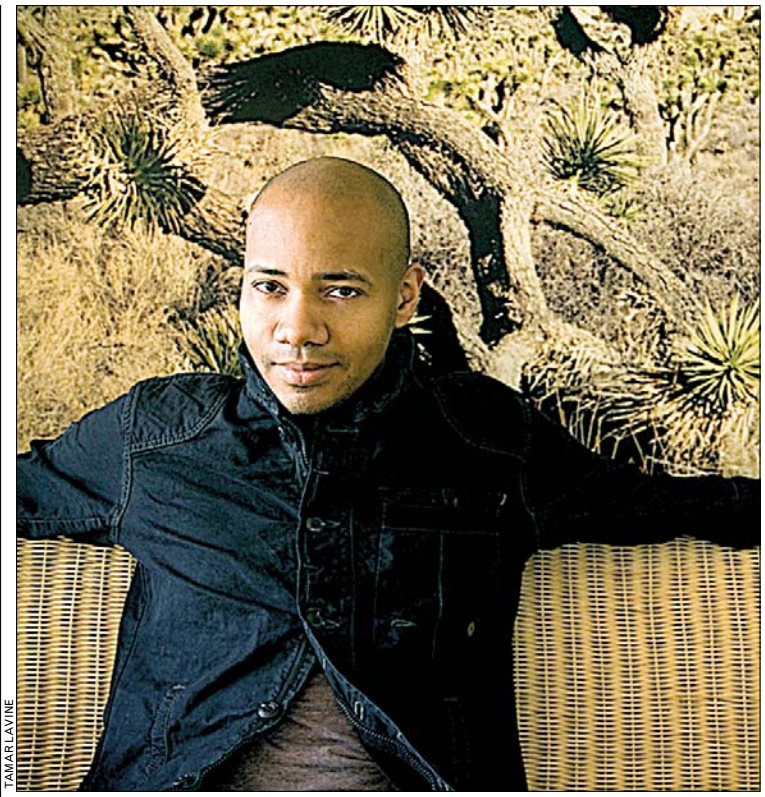

TAMAR LAVINE

DJ Spooky translates his musical talent for extracting detail to his filmmaking.

→ *St. Stephen Church, 1525 Newton St. NW; Thu., 7 p.m., free; mazi@wblinc.org or 202-667-1192 for reservations; also screening "Dot Com," on the D.C.-based graffiti crew. (Columbia Heights)*

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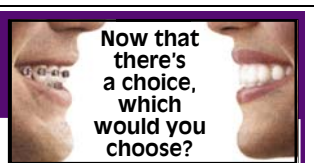

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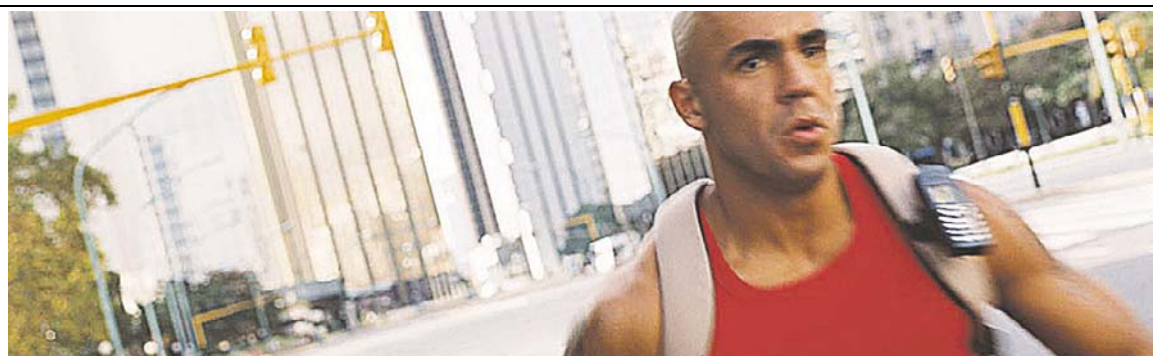

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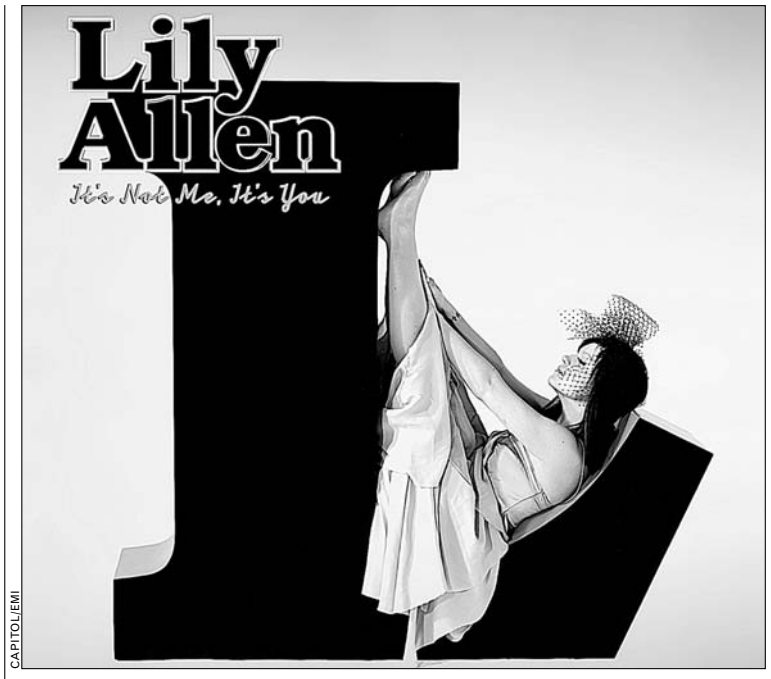
Entertainment

Flower in Bloom

Lily Allen's sophomore effort smells sweet and shows her thorns



CAPITOL/EMI

NOBODY'S PERFECT: Lily Allen embraces her flaws on "It's Not Me, It's You."

MUSIC | Saucer-eyed provocateur Lily Allen had to impress with her follow-up to "Alright, Still," the 2006 record launched by a few charming, if slight, MySpace demos. Producer Mark Ronson gave her debut its bouncy retro-meets-reggae identity, but she did well to return to producer Greg Kurstin, whose resourceful fingerprints are all over "It's Not Me, It's You," Allen's full-blown entree into character-driven pop.

Maybe more than any other pop star at the moment, to listen to Allen is to know her, or at least her cheeky confection. She's mischievous, sweet as powdered sugar, backstabbing at her worst and absolutely irrepressible.

Her gift for satire — which roams from boudoir to parties to politics — is perfectly encapsulated on "The Fear," a poison arrow aimed at celebrity. It extends to herself in "Him," a rumination on God, in which she pokes a needle into her precious concept with ridiculous lines such as "I don't imagine he's ever been suicidal/ His favorite band is Creedence Clearwater Revival." In "Never Gonna Happen," she berates a clingy boy while dragging him into the sack.

Kurstin, who wrote the album with Allen, knows how to play to his heroine's strengths with a battery of deft touches. Vaudeville, show-tune theatrics, lonely dance-floor pop and even a smidge of cartoon country give "It's Not Me, It's You" its clever foundation that references pop culture with the same insatiability as Allen's lyrics.

Allen will always be revered by some and reviled by others for her acidic wit that sometimes skims over herself. She's flawed, but who isn't? She doesn't look too deeply, and let's hope she never does — or else it'll be no fun at all.

MARGARET WAPPLER (LOS ANGELES TIMES)

Hats off To the Finalists

Brad Paisley leads the pack in ACM Award nominations

JIM SHEA

Paisley is nominated for male vocalist, entertainer of the year and song of the year.

IN THE RUNNING | Brad Paisley leads all finalists for the Academy of Country Music Awards with six nominations.

The finalists were announced in Nashville, Tenn., Wednesday morning, and Paisley garnered nods for entertainer of the year and male vocalist. He is also a finalist for record, song and video of the year for "Waitin' on a Woman." Paisley is also up for vocal event of the year for "Start a Band" with Keith Urban.

Heidi Newfield is a strong contender, picking up nominations in five categories, including song of the year and video of the year for "Johnny & June."

The winners will be announced during the Academy of Country Music Awards show in Las Vegas on CBS on April 5. (AP)

TOP DOGG: Premiering on Feb. 17 on MTV, Snoop Dogg will host "Dogg After Dark," a new weekly variety talk show from Los Angeles. The series will feature celebrity interviews, sketch comedy and musical performances.

Television

ON TV TONIGHT

TRY TO LOVE THY NEIGHBOR
Joy and Darnell meet their brand-new neighbors (played by guest stars Morgan Fairchild, Joan Van Ark and Andrea Parker) on **MY NAME IS EARL** (8 p.m., NBC).

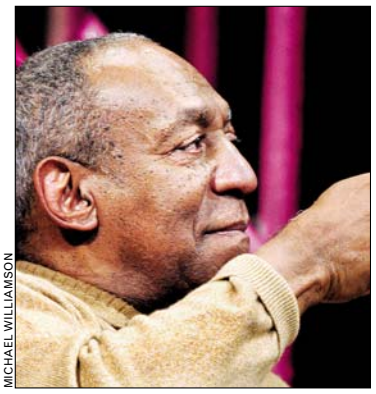
ALWAYS THE GIVER
Betty creates a tribute for Claire on **UGLY BETTY** (8 p.m., ABC).

A PROUD HISTORY
The **40TH ANNUAL NAACP AWARDS** (8 p.m., Fox) celebrates the 100th anniversary of the founding of the civil rights organization.

ONE TOO MANY BACONATORS
Killers in a fast-food restaurant leave greasy evidence behind on **CSI** (9 p.m., CBS).

CONTINUING CHUCKLES
Michael continues his tour on **THE OFFICE** (9 p.m., NBC).

'THERE HAS TO BE A SECOND'
Liz puts conditions on a first date on **30 ROCK** (9:30 p.m., NBC).



MICHAEL WILLIAMSON

Bill Cosby sits down with Jay Leno on "The Tonight Show" this evening.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?
Sen. John Sununu, R-N.H., is scheduled on **THE DAILY SHOW WITH JON STEWART** (11 p.m., Comedy Central).

DR. HUXTABLE IS IN
Jay Leno hosts Bill Cosby on **THE TONIGHT SHOW** (11:35 p.m., NBC). KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

Walls Came Tumbling Down

On 'House of Cards,' David Faber unearths a cracked foundation

CRISIS | Financial catastrophe and willful self-delusion get a serious treatment on "House of Cards" (8 p.m. and midnight, CNBC), an impressive two-hour special report on the origins of the current financial mess, hosted by correspondent David Faber.

"Cards" focuses on victims of foreclosure and some of the more colorful scoundrels of the overheated credit market, among them David Sadek, a recent immigrant with a third-grade education who sold easy credit on late-night commercials on cable television. He made so much money that he produced his own movie, "Redline," a car-crash thriller starring Eddie Griffin.

CRAIG BLAKEHORN/CNBC

CNBC's David Faber interviews experts including Alan Greenspan tonight.

The special does a so-so job of explaining just how these horrible loans were "packaged" on Wall Street into complex financial "instruments" and sold to investors all over the world. But even former Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan, interviewed here, has a tough time explaining the math and logic behind characterizing very bad debt as Triple-A and investment-worthy financial "instruments."

When Faber asks Greenspan about the obvious problems of a deregulated market, the former oracle of the Fed falls back on a general defense of modern capitalism itself. He seems to be delivering a eulogy for his own era. KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

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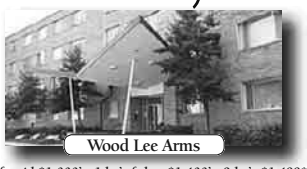

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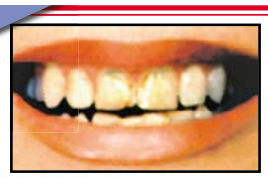

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Look out

TRENDS, CULTURE, DISCOVERIES, IDEAS, PEOPLE

INSIDE

Officially the first lady of fashion | 30

Blog Log: Computer shutoff problems | 28

Discussions: What the bailout means | 28

RUNWAY-READY: A sketch by designer Rachel Roy has Barbie showing some skin to celebrate her 50th birthday.

FASHIONABLE IN ANY ERA: Fashion designer Nicole Miller designed a mid- to late-'60s mod dress for Barbie's birthday.

Styles

Barbie celebrates her 50th year with new, high-fashion outfits

You've got to be at the top of your game to be a one-name model: There's Iman, Naomi, Gisele — and Barbie.

The 11.5-inch plastic doll is still on top as a high-fashion muse as she approaches her 50th birthday, and will make her New York Fashion Week catwalk debut on Saturday in 50 outfits by the country's top designers.

Barbie's life-size stand-ins will strut in a gold gown by Ralph Lauren, a hot-pink wrap dress by Diane von Furstenberg and an outrageous green party dress by Betsey Johnson.

> "There's been an epic display of unity around Barbie as a muse."
>
> **RICHARD DICKSON**, MATTEL INC.

The fact that Barbie is just shy of her 50th birthday — officially marked on March 9 — doesn't seem to matter in a fashion industry that worships youth. (Being made of plastic, she can even avoid the indignities of Botox.)

"There's been an epic display of unity around Barbie as a muse," says Richard Dickson, general manager of the Barbie brand at Mattel Inc. "Barbie is 50. What's the next chapter?"

Hello Kitty is also getting a Fashion Week party, but there's little doubt about who's top doll. Barbie even knocked down the Bratz girls last year, resulting in a legal decision that essentially will end sales of the edgier tween dolls.

TIMM SCHAMBERGER/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

FANTASTIC PLASTIC: Models hold Barbie dolls at a toy fair in Germany.

Forever Young

BEBETO MATTHEWS/AP

Carmen Marc Valvo created a life-size black cocktail dress inspired by Barbie.

"A majority of designers have had some run-in with Barbie," says designer Carmen Marc Valvo. "She's an American icon, and there has to be an interesting association between play and Barbie, and creativity and fashion."

Valvo insists he's never had his own Barbie, but he was surrounded by his sisters' as a kid, and his very first design was a Barbie dress — a Renaissance gown for a school project. It's proudly displayed in his office, even though the dress is lacking properly cut armholes, a skill he did not yet have.

Valvo's new life-size Barbie dress is a frothy black strapless cocktail dress with pleats that reminds him of Barbie's early wardrobe of gowns. This one will be worn with hot-pink Christian Louboutin shoes: "It looks like a bon bon."

Nicole Miller's checkerboard trapeze dress and swing coat is the third outfit she has done for Barbie, filling a childhood void from a time when her French-born mother wouldn't let her have one of the dolls.

"I always envision Barbie in that '60s mode — I made her mid- to late-'60s mod," said Miller. It's a version of a dress Miller put in her very first runway show, worn by Linda Evangelista. "It was the season she was a blond. I immediately thought of that outfit."

Tommy Hilfiger, who will put Barbie in a hand-beaded white minidress, sees Barbie as an American pop-culture icon that translates to other cultures and countries. There have been countless Barbies produced in the traditional dress of faraway lands, including a Korean bride in a hanbok and a Kenyan doll wearing wooden bead necklaces.

The dark-skinned Barbie even boosted the self-esteem of a young Rachel Roy, a designer with mixed Dutch and Indian heritage. "It helped me understand that brown was beautiful," she says.

SAMANTHA CRITCHELL (AP)

Look out Online

express nightout >> EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM

TELEVISION

You Watch, We Blog

If you've been falling behind on "Top Chef," "24" or "American Idol" — or are just looking for someplace to vent — our bloggers are your salve. Visit Karmah Elmusa's "Hail to the Chef," Matt Swenson's "Bauer by Hour" and Greg Barber's "Idol Chatter" for insights, japes and rants. | ONLINE NOW

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BAGGAGE CHECK

Stop the Violence

While innocent until proven guilty, the allegations that Chris Brown hit Rihanna gave Dr. Andrea Bonior an opportunity to discuss the extremely serious issue that is relationship violence. She provides some info and insights. | ONLINE NOW

poll center

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS AS OF 5 P.M.

ARE OPPONENTS OF THE ECONOMIC STIMULUS BILL HELPING OR HURTING THE COUNTRY?

HURTING 65% | **HELPING** 35%

"When you consider that the opponents of this bill are the same people, by and large, who got us into this fix in the first place, they've yet to show me that they've helped us with anything."

COMMENTER CM LEVIN, RESPONDING TO WEDNESDAY'S POLL CENTER QUESTION, "ARE OPPONENTS OF THE ECONOMIC STIMULUS BILL HELPING OR HURTING THE COUNTRY?"

"The opponents are not hurting the country, but they are truly hurting themselves. Just criticizing the bill because they are Republicans makes them look childish and petty."

COMMENTER GREG, WHO ADDED, "DID THEY NOT LEARN ANYTHING FROM THE LAST TWO ELECTIONS?"

"Opponents are helping Congress, but they still believe in the premise that government action is necessary. It is government action that prevents a recovery."

COMMENTER ANOTHER PERSON, WHO ADDED, "IF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT STOPPED ALL TAXES FOR A YEAR, THIS ECONOMY WOULD TURN AROUND ON ITS OWN."

SEE HOW YOUR METRO STATION VOTED AT EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM/POLLCENTER

Blog LOG

"So, your soil is sandy and awful. Plant peanuts! They have pretty yellow flowers, and no one will know to dig up the roots and get the food."

ECONO-GIRL.BLOGSPOT.COM HAS SOME ADVICE FOR URBAN GARDENERS, ADDING, "IN COLUMBIA HEIGHTS, THERE ARE PROBLEMS WITH PEOPLE STEALING FROM GARDENS."

MARVIN JOSEPH/TWP

"I would just like to point out that in an effort to spend less time on the computer, I tried to shut down my [machine] early this morning, and it refused to shut off. [It] did the electronic equivalent of grabbing at my ankles so I wouldn't leave."

1001WORDS.COM IS TRYING TO DETACH FROM TECHNOLOGY, BUT THE COMPUTER GODS ARE CONSPIRING AGAINST HIM.

"The alumni and other private support isn't there. If UDC is ever going to improve, things have to start with tuition."

WASHINGTONCITYPAPER.COM/BLOGS/CITYDESK THINKS UDC IS WELL WITHIN ITS RIGHTS TO RAISE TUITION FROM $3,000 A YEAR FOR D.C. RESIDENTS TO $7,000, DESPITE STUDENTS' PROTESTS.

"SO, FOR THE FIRST TIME in a long time, I will have a boyfriend on Valentine's Day. As nice as the holiday is, it is starting to cause me a lot of stress."

UPSIDEDWN-INSIDEOUT.BLOGSPOT.COM HAS ANXIETY ABOUT FEB. 14, ADDING, "WHAT IN THE WORLD SHOULD I GET THE AMAZING GUY?"

Discussions

Steven Pearlstein

Washington Post columnist **STEVEN PEARLSTEIN** was online to discuss Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner's $1.5 trillion bank bailout plan and the ongoing economic turmoil.

Wow, you certainly took Nebraska's senators to task for economic illiteracy! I'm certain they deserved the notoriety. Have you been pleasantly surprised by anyone in Congress that seems to have a good working knowledge of economics?

I just heard Sen. Hatch and Sen. Alexander on MSNBC talking against the stimulus bill, and I have never seen so much economic nonsense packed into so short a time in my life. It was truly breathtaking — every comment they made was based on an economic fallacy. And I truly think they believe what they were saying. They were wrong on the fact, wrong on the theory, wrong on the logic. It was like listening to people claim the sky is green.

On "Hardball With Chris Matthews," you gave three points about the Geithner plan. However, Chris interrupted you before you were able to talk about a fourth point. What was that point?

The fourth part of the Treasury program will be a more aggressive mortgage foreclosure prevention program, along the lines recommended by FDIC chairwoman Sheila Bair. That should help.

President Obama said there are no earmarks in the stimulus package. John Kyl, Senate minority whip, made a list of items today that he considers earmarks. Which is more accurate?

I'm sure there are items in there for which there is only one logical recipient of the money. [I] haven't seen the list. But the question you need to ask is whether these are useless pork or worthy projects whose funding will stimulate in the short run and have a good long-term payoff. Let's not let process trump substance.

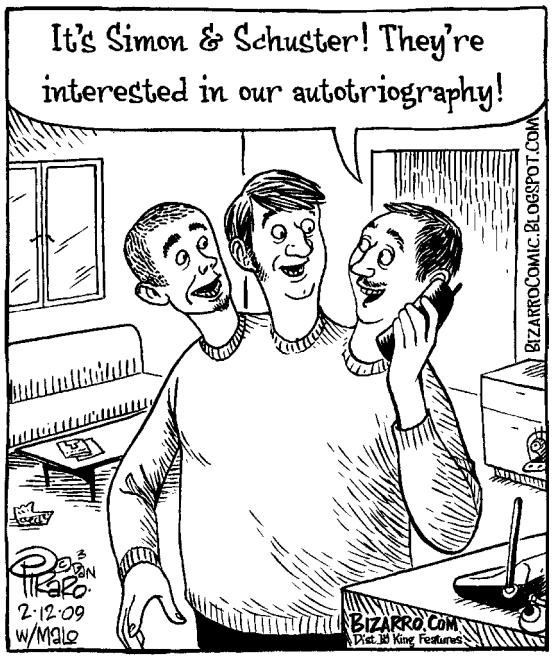
What is the real difference between this "plan" and Henry Paulson's?

It is merely an extension of Paulson's plan, with modifications reflecting changed conditions and lessons learned, and a bit more aggressiveness.

TODAY ON DISCUSSIONS: Potomac Confidential fills the midday lull with discussion by Metro columnist Marc Fisher at noon. | **washingtonpost.com/discussions.**

Look out

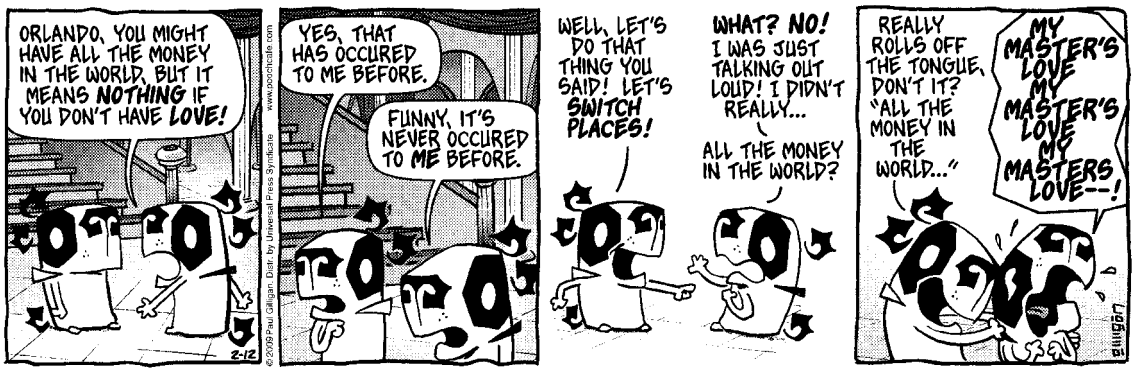
Bizarro | *Dan Piraro*



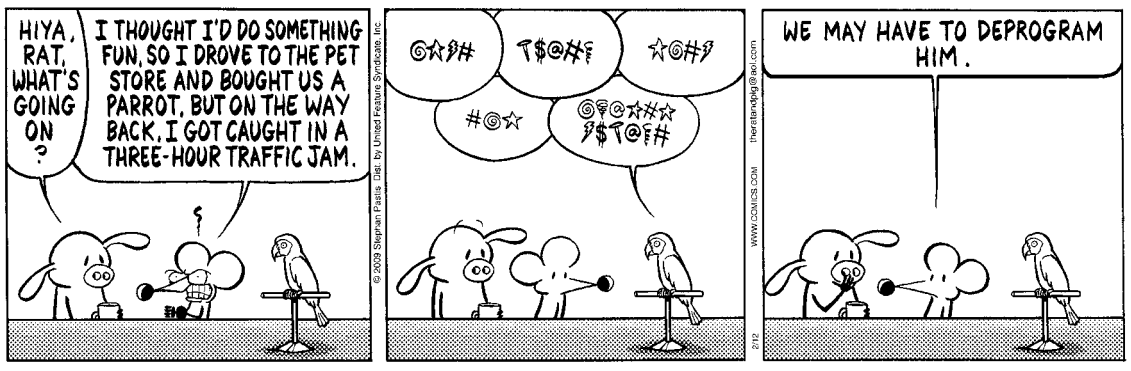
Cornered | *Mike Baldwin*

"You're never too young to start plan… For crying out loud, quit drooling all over everything!"

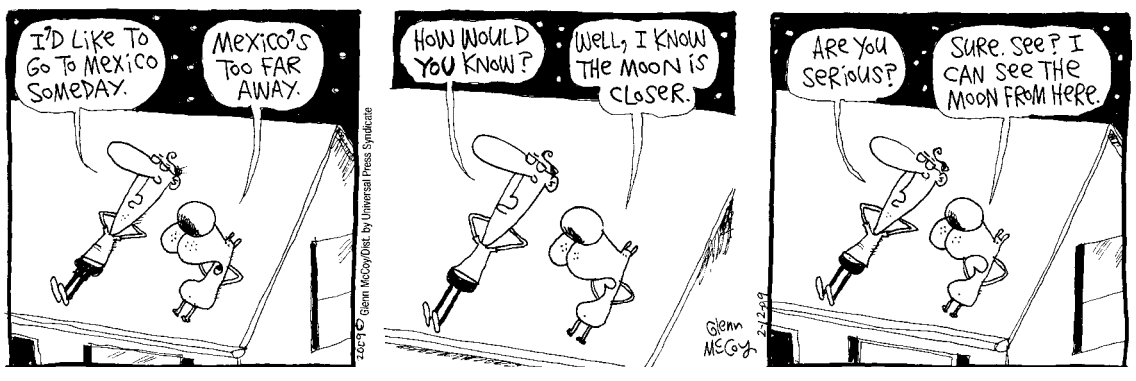
Pooch Cafe | *Paul Gilligan*



Pearls Before Swine | *Stephan Pastis*



The Duplex | *Glenn McCoy*



Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Environmental influences are likely to be felt more directly than usual. You may want to seek out physical and emotional shelter.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) It's a good idea to stick to more conventional plans and ideas. The more unusual your thinking, the harder time you'll have of it.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You'll receive some timely advice from someone who is leading the way — but you'll also discover that there are things you know better.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Be willing to share responsibility with a partner who complements you and will do the things you are unwilling to do.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Don't shy away from those whose opinions differ from your own. The discussion that can result yields valuable insights.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You may not know just yet how to maximize your rewards, but you do know that the time will come when you can do so. Seek out more current information.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Your thirst for knowledge may well seem unquenchable. Later on, you can begin to put a new lesson to use in a highly creative manner.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You have what it takes to express yourself so clearly and persuasively that you can change the mind of your most fervent critic.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You are able to collect information and put it to use quickly and efficiently. This can prove essential as the business climate changes.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You may be asking too much of someone who has only recently joined your team. Let him or her experiment a bit before making specific demands.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Do not let your talent for bringing out the best in people go to waste. Much depends on your leadership abilities.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Focus on social and cultural issues. Many are wanting what you can provide. A lesson can be learned that increases income.

STAN HONDA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Uno became the first beagle named Westminster's best in show on Feb. 12, 2008.

Today in History

1909 The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is founded in New York.

1914 Ground is broken for the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. (The cornerstone is laid on this date one year later.)

1959 The redesigned penny, with an image of the Lincoln Memorial replacing two ears of wheat on the reverse side, goes into circulation on Lincoln's 150th birthday.

1999 The Senate votes to acquit President Bill Clinton of perjury and obstruction of justice; Clinton tells Americans he is "profoundly sorry" for what he had said and done in his affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky that triggered it all.

2004 Defying a California law, San Francisco officials begin performing weddings for same-sex couples.

2008 Uno becomes the first beagle named Westminster's best in show.

PostPoints DAILY CODE AF

Look out | People

CHRIS JACKSON/GETTY IMAGES

Hasn't he heard of strength in numbers?

ARMY

Careful, Mister. The Jolie-Pitts Will Take You DOWN

A senior Thai diplomat rebuked **ANGELINA JOLIE** on Wednesday for speaking out on behalf of refugees from Myanmar. Jolie called on the Thai government to respect the human rights of Myanmar's Rohinyga "boat people" last week. (AP)

FREEDOM

It's Nice to Just Be Able to Say, 'Hey, World, I'm a Cougar'

MICHELLE PFEIFFER says she finds 50 "liberating." "It seems that my leading men keep getting younger," she said Tuesday in connection with her movie "Cheri," in which her love interest is much younger than she is. (AP)

expressnightout

➜ Find the latest celebrity news and photo evidence of stars' sordid lives at WWW.EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM.

ANNIE LEIBOVITZ/VOUGE

STRIKE A POSE

First Fashionista

It's official: **MICHELLE OBAMA** is the first lady of American fashion, appearing on the cover of the March issue of Vogue. Every first lady since Lou Hoover — save Bess Truman — has been featured in the magazine, but Obama is only the second to grace the cover (Hillary Rodham Clinton was the first). She wears a magenta silk sheath dress by Jason Wu, who also designed her inaugural gown. (AP)

He overcame good looks and talent to get this far.

THEME SONG

From West Philadelphia To Sitting on His Throne As the King Of Hollywood

WILL SMITH was voted the most bankable star in a survey of industry professionals by Forbes.com. The financial magazine's Web site gives the actor a score of 10 out of 10 for his bankability in its first "star currency" list. Following Smith: Angelina Jolie, Brad Pitt, Johnny Depp and Leonardo DiCaprio, who all tied for second with a score of 9.89. Tom Hanks, George Clooney, Denzel Washington, Matt Damon and Jack Nicholson rounded out the top 10. (AP)

SETTLEMENT

Bada Bing, Bada Boom, And I'm Outta This Mess

VINCENT PASTORE of "The Sopranos" fame settled a $5.5 million lawsuit accusing him of assaulting his ex-fiancee. The settlement was announced Tuesday just before Pastore, 62, was to testify for the second day in Manhattan's State Supreme Court in the assault trial filed by Lisa Regina, 47. Lawyers for both sides said the terms of the settlement were confidential. (AP)

AFTERMATH

Rihanna Cancels Shows In Wake of Alleged Assault

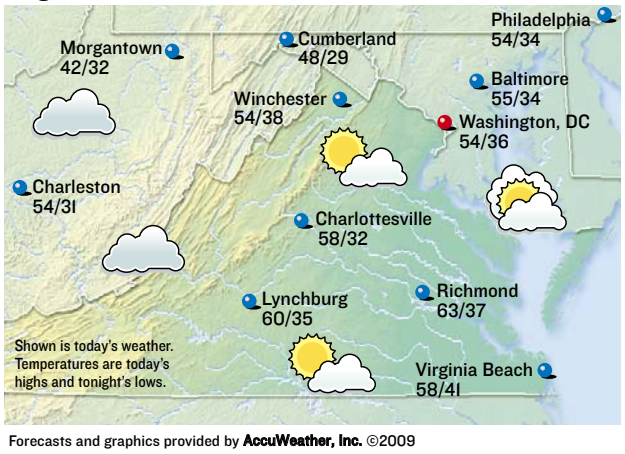
According to People, **RIHANNA** has canceled her Thursday night concert in Jakarta, Indonesia, after a violent incident allegedly involving her boyfriend, Chris Brown, Saturday night. This is Rihanna's second cancellation; she also nixed a concert in Malaysia on Tuesday. (EXPRESS)

Both of her Asia shows this week are off.

5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area

Today	Tonight	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Very windy; partly sunny and cooler	Partly cloudy and windy	Partly sunny with winds subsiding	Rain, mixed with snow early; colder	Intervals of clouds and sun	Mostly sunny and breezy
54°	36°	54° / 32°	42° / 31°	42° / 28°	43° / 27°

Regional Weather



Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2009

Almanac

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Wed.

Temperature

High	71°
Low	45°
Normal high	45°
Normal low	29°
Average humidity	59%

Precipitation

24 hours ending 4 p.m.	0.00"
Month to date	0.03"
Normal month to date	1.00"
Year to date	2.71"
Last year to date	3.57"
Normal year to date	4.21"

For up-to-the-minute weather, see: **washingtonpost.com/weather**

Regional Forecast

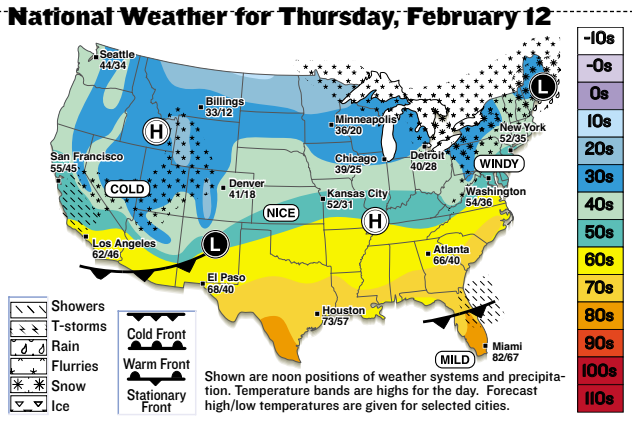
D.C. Metro: Today, partly sunny, very windy. High 54. Wind west-northwest 25-35 mph. Tonight, windy. Low 36. Wind northwest 12-25 mph, gusts 35 mph.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today	7:03 a.m.
Sunset tonight	5:42 p.m.
Moonrise today	9:34 p.m.
Moonset today	8:24 a.m.

Last	New	First	Full
Feb 16	Feb 24	Mar 4	Mar 10

National Weather for Thursday, February 12



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are given for selected cities.

National Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	66/40/s	62/44/pc
Boston	48/31/pc	38/23/pc
Chicago	39/25/pc	42/28/pc
Dallas	68/49/pc	68/41/pc
Denver	41/18/pc	31/11/sn
Honolulu	80/70/pc	81/69/s
Los Angeles	62/46/pc	60/44/r
Miami	82/67/pc	81/66/pc
New York City	52/35/pc	42/29/pc
Orlando	80/58/pc	77/59/pc
Seattle	44/34/pc	45/32/s

World Cities

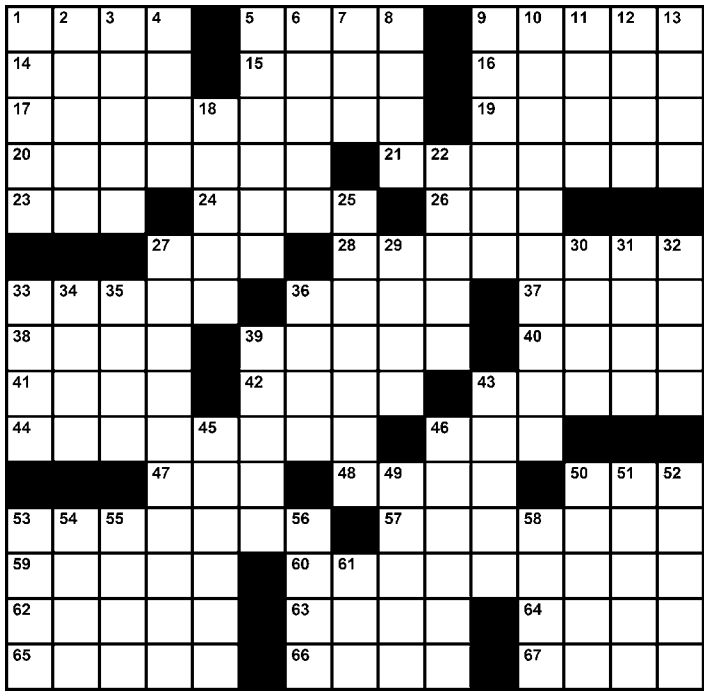
City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W
Amsterdam	37/32/sn	38/30/pc
Athens	55/39/c	54/39/sh
Berlin	32/25/sn	30/23/sn
Buenos Aires	81/65/s	93/69/s
Calgary	21/3/c	13/-2/c
Dublin	45/36/sh	43/37/pc
Geneva	31/28/sn	29/24/sn
Moscow	32/27/sn	34/28/sn
Rome	45/32/sh	41/30/pc
Sydney	70/63/sh	67/63/r
Tokyo	55/44/s	61/50/c

s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

LOOK out

CROSSWORD | CHEESE!

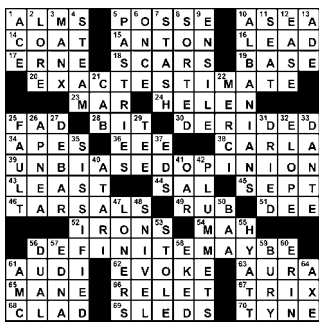
EDITED BY TIMOTHY E. PARKER



ACROSS
1 Casting requirement?
5 "___ great fall"
9 Many times
14 Admirer from a distance
15 "All by Myself" singer Carmen
16 Disturber of the peace?
17 She's got a ticket to write
19 Dazzling success
20 Art provided in folders?
21 Puffy cloud
23 Numerical ID
24 It starts the NYSE
26 Ballet step
27 Douglas, for one
28 Emma Peel and John Steed
33 Physical stature
36 Has attachment
37 Brother of Fidel
38 Menlo Park name
39 Hackneyed, as a joke
40 Workplace watchdog org.
41 Gun powder and souchong, for two
42 Goes to seed
43 The Singing Cowboy
44 Bad thing to let the fox guard
46 Zugspitze, for one
47 M.D., familiarly
48 Edible lily bulb
50 Small pouch
53 Cure-all
57 Double negative follower?
59 Sardonic literary device
60 Bar necessity
62 Occasional suffix on political titles
63 What a dibble makes
64 General vicinity
65 "The better ___ you with, my dear!"
66 First half of a Senate vote
67 Dear companion?

DOWN
1 Inbox buildup
2 Court hearings
3 Permit to enter
4 Bit of sediment
5 Dress finisher
6 As thin as ___
7 502, at the Forum
8 "Black Ice" rockers
9 Type of band or show
10 Market research selection
11 Where your payment may be placed
12 Isaac's first
13 Shrimping tools
18 More than zealous
22 Overturn
25 Son of Polonius
27 Jennifer Beals vehicle
29 Winners' signs
30 Big Apple river
31 German river
32 Kill or delight
33 Cat's bane
34 Oscar-nominated Peter Fonda role
35 Gold Glover Rodriguez
36 Curricula vitae
39 Armistice
43 Word with "move" or "sing"
45 Immature egg
46 Playing marbles
49 ___ Gay
50 Astonished look
51 Cruising
52 Labor leader Chavez
53 Dutch painter Mondrian
54 Guthrie of "Alice's Restaurant" fame
55 They might be heard a thousand times
56 Pallid-looking
58 Vigorous spirit
61 Down front?

Yesterday's Solution



SUDOKU | HARD

© PUZZLES BY PAPPOCOM

Fill in the boxes so each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. See www.sudoku.com for solution, tips and computer program.

Need more Su|do|ku?
Find another Sudoku puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section Monday through Saturday.

	4		3		8			
		7	4					6
		9			6		7	
	5				3			1
		6				3		
3			8				4	
	7		1			2		
4					5	1		
			6		7		9	

Yesterday's Solution

8	2	4	1	5	3	7	9	6
9	5	7	4	2	6	1	8	3
1	6	3	7	8	9	2	5	4
6	9	1	5	3	8	4	2	7
2	4	5	6	9	7	8	3	1
3	7	8	2	4	1	5	6	9
5	1	6	3	7	2	9	4	8
4	3	9	8	1	5	6	7	2
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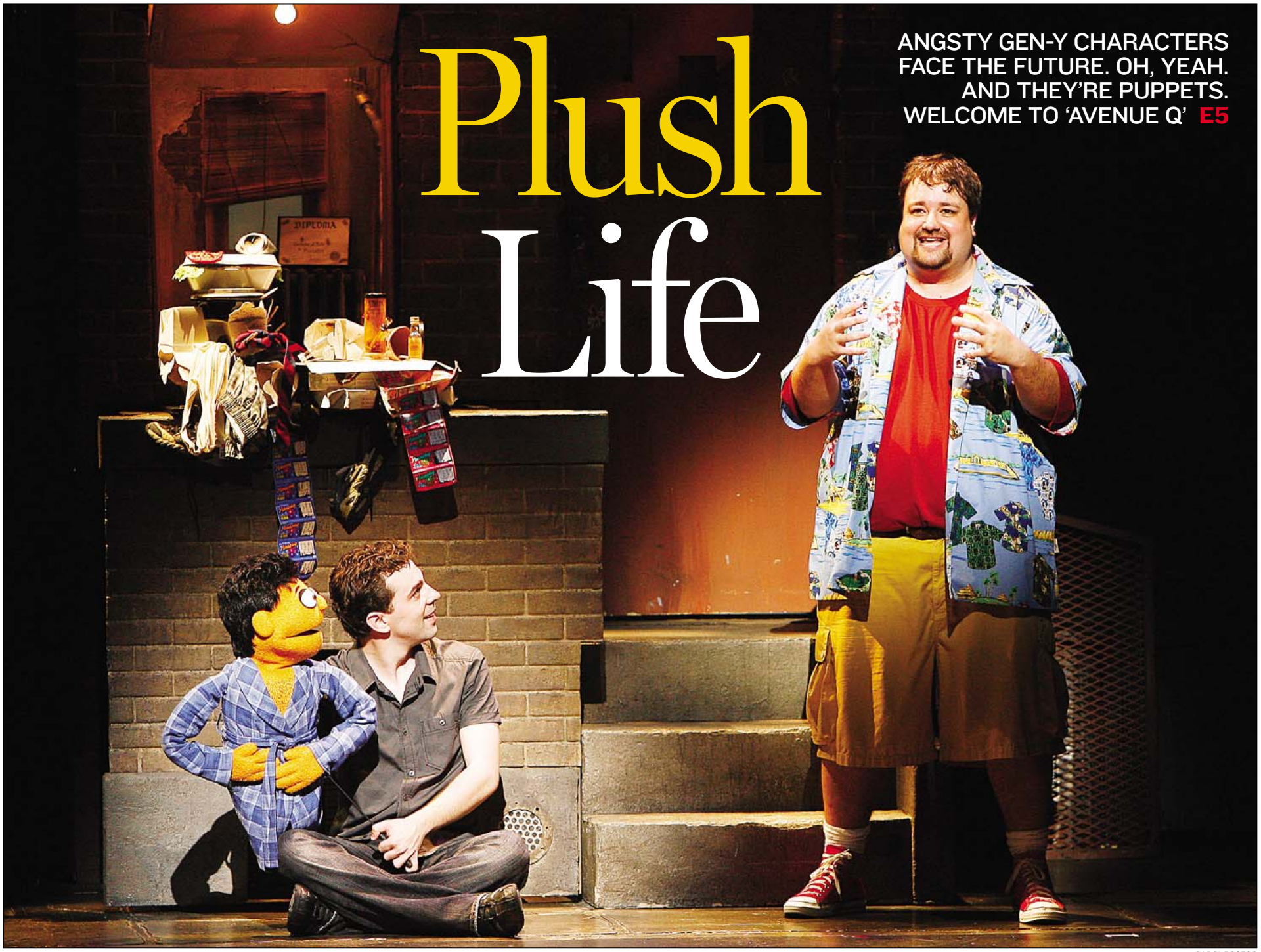

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NAME: Dan Rothberg
GIG: Director, "Hell Meets Henry Halfway"

AT PIG IRON Theatre Company, the actors strive to "break the clichés of conventional theatre, but also the clichés of avant-garde theater." At least that's how Rothenberg, director of "Hell Meets Henry Halfway," now playing on Woolly Mammoth's stage, likes to think of it. He sat down with Express to talk about the new production.

Your company is pre-existing and you choose the play, but your actors help create the script. How does that affect your work?
Casting actors who look the part has always been really backwards in terms of theater worth watching. We treat it as not just literature that's being spit up on its feet, but as an art form that's made of actions and gestures and breaths. ... Some of Chekhov's plays and some of Shakespeare's plays were written exactly that way — the parts grew up around people. ... You'd think that would happen more often ... but it's actually pretty rare.

What sets Pig Iron apart from a standard theater company?
Part of our job, we think, is to give people things that we don't already know that they like. We really like to create work where audiences are caught off guard. ... When people say that theatrical work is safe, they mean that the audience knows moment to moment, "Am I supposed to feel sad? Am I supposed to feel proud?" ... We're working with a lot of different techniques to disrupt those signals.

Why did you choose to adapt "The Possessed"?
We were commissioned by a Polish theater festival to make a work in honor of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Witold Gombrowicz. ... We specifically decided not to use one of his plays and not to use one of his masterpieces, but to use something that was kind of bad. ["The Possessed" is a pulpy, gothic novel that Gombrowicz denied authorship of for a time.] ... It's kind of a messy piece that gave us a lot of room to play.

COURTESY OF WOOLLY MAMMOTH THEATRE

MIXING IT UP: There are no safe viewing moments in "Hell Meets Henry Halfway."

It seems like a choice that deliberately challenged you.
It's almost a formal experiment, to make a play in which nobody cares. ... It's incredibly enraging to see a bunch of characters who don't care, but also incredibly sexy. ... Woolly Mammoth last year decided that their theme for the season was going to be "apocalypse." I guess there's lots of reasons to think, "Why now?" in terms of why we want to create plays about the end of the world, but I guess I'm kind of excited artistically to bring such a black comedy to D.C. at the moment when all of us are feeling so much more optimism about what can happen. There is a friction in bringing a play about the real, sexy appeal of pessimism, just to make sure that that conversation is still happening.

> "It's almost a formal experiment, to make a play in which nobody cares."

FIONA ZUBLIN (EXPRESS)

➜ *Woolly Mammoth Theatre, 641 D St. NW; through March 1, $26-$60; 202-393-3939, woollymammoth.net. (Archives-Navy Memorial)*

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The Bard Unearthed

Revisiting a play that Shakespeare may want to forget

FILM | In a town with two theaters devoted to the works of Shakespeare, you can't do "Macbeth" every time. The man wrote only 38 (or so) plays, and even those of lesser merit are going to get an airing. In an effort to make sense of one of these forgotten works, the Folger Theatre produces the relative rarity "A Winter's Tale." It's a schizophrenic work; a sad, dark romance in the first act and a peppy, slapstick pastiche in the second.

Daniel Stewart (son of Shakespearean titan Patrick Stewart) stars as Leontes, happily married king of Sicilia. For no apparent reason — except to move the plot along — Leontes becomes convinced that his pregnant wife (Connan Morrissey) and his best friend (David Whalen) are having an affair, and will stop at nothing to prove himself right. Stewart has a difficult job to do here, and he pulls it off. As jealousy overtakes him completely, he writhes, muttering, in corners. His transformation from king to Gollum is, against all odds, believable.

CAROL PRATT

FRESH LOOK: "The Winter's Tale" has been considered a Shakespearean mystery.

Like most of Shakespeare plays, "Winter's Tale" has a few tried and true moments that make the play worth watching. Some of them — including the much-quoted stage direction, "Exit, pursued by a bear" — work as they are meant to, some fall flat. Theatrical powerhouse Naomi Jacobson makes the most of one of Shakespeare's greatest female roles, the fearless Paulina, and Lawrence Redmond (Antiginous/Father) makes a confusing dual role quite comprehensible.

"The Winter's Tale" is known as one of Shakespeare's problem plays for a reason. While the Bard often relied on coincidence or deus ex machina to give him a happy ending, the plot twists in The Winter's Tale abandon believability. But there are moments where the genius of Shakespeare (and of D.C.'s acting community) makes the enterprise worthwhile. FIONA ZUBLIN (EXPRESS)

→ *Folger Theatre, 201 E. Capitol St. SE; through March 8, $38-$55; 202-544-7077, folger.edu. (Capitol South)*

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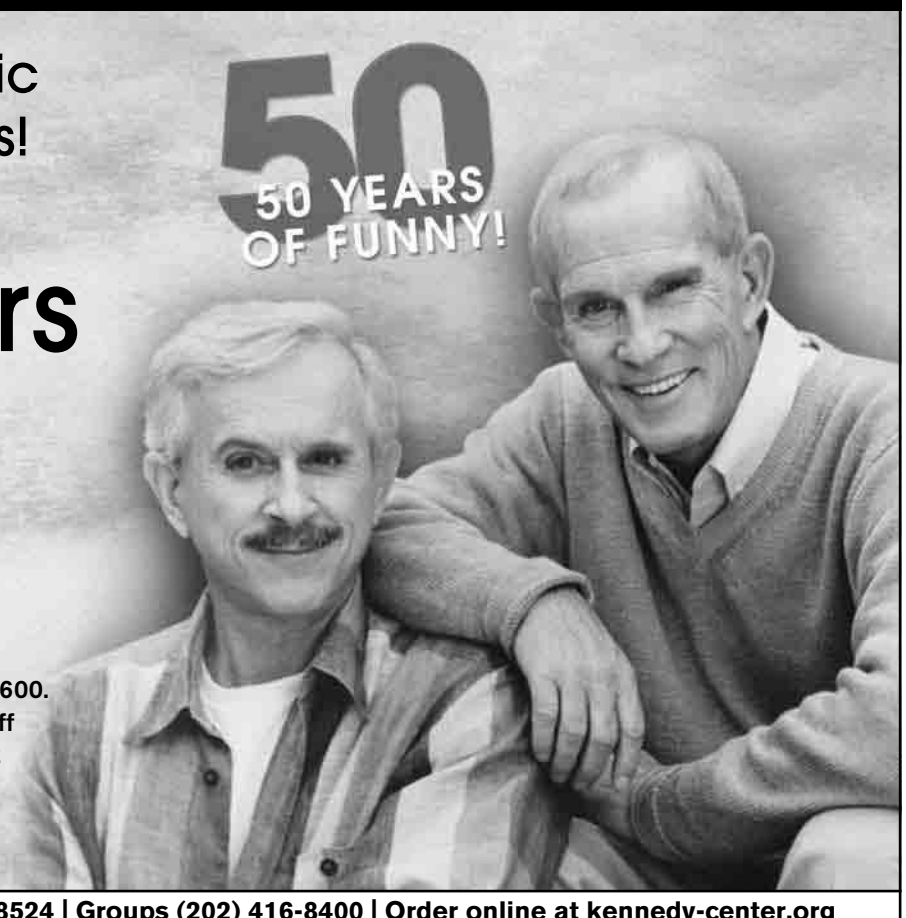

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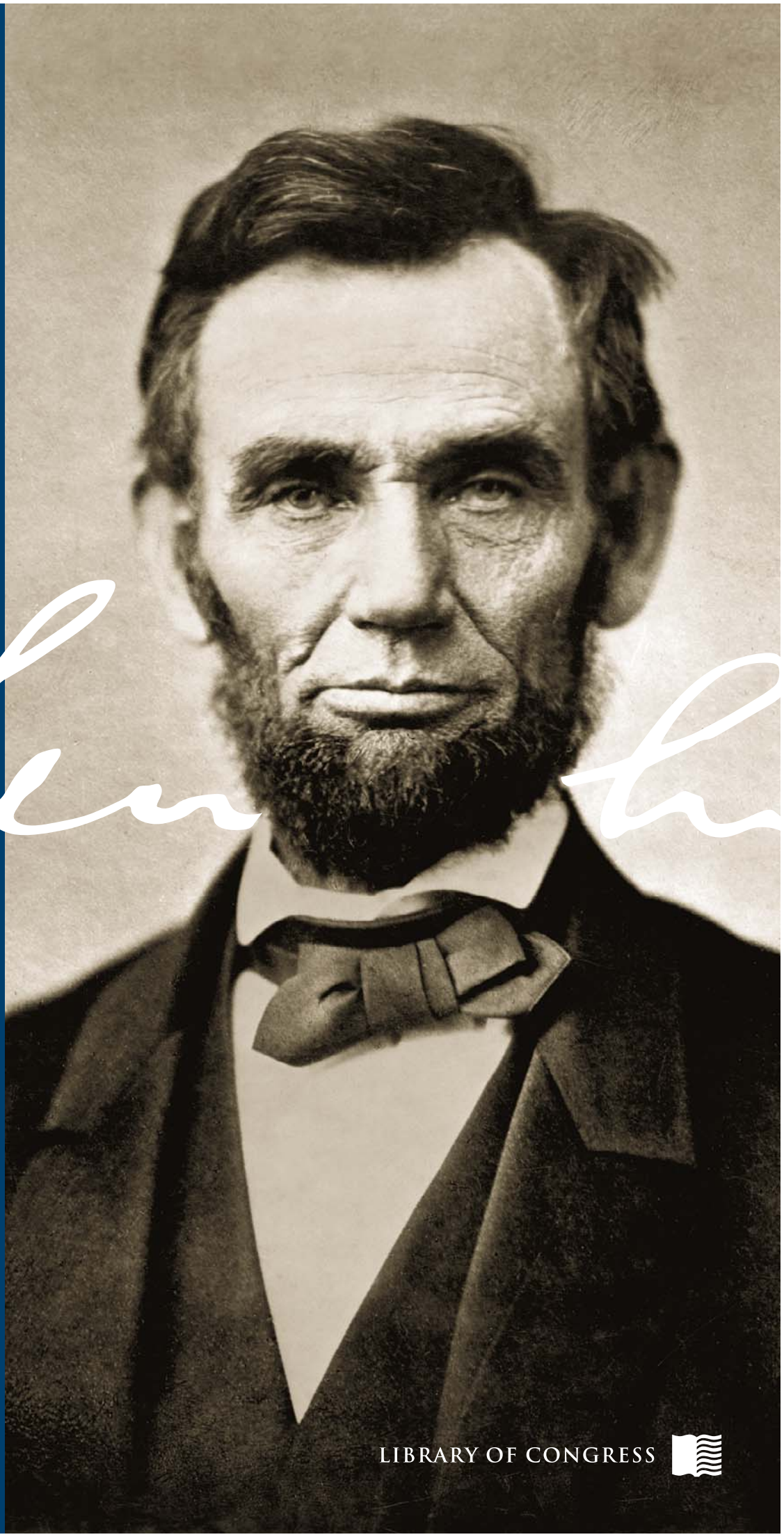


LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

PHOTOS BY CAROL ROSEGG

SOFT, FUZZY AND POTTY-MOUTHED: One trick to puppeteering in "Avenue Q," says Anika Larsen (left, with the character Kate Monster, and Robert McClure and his puppet, Princeton), is looking where your character is looking. Below, Maggie Lakis and David Benoit manage the Trekkie Monster.

Animal Magnetism

Puppets talking dirty, singing risqué songs? It must be 'Avenue Q'

The show stars an ensemble of angsty Generation Y puppets

STAGE | What they don't tell you about Puppet Camp is that only the strong survive.

The camp, which "Avenue Q" cast member Anika Larsen describes as a "fast and dirty" two-day crash course in puppetry, is a necessity for all prospective "Avenue Q" cast members to test whether they even have the capacity to learn puppetry.

"It's amazingly harder than it looks," she said. "Now, when I'm on the treadmill at the hotel gyms, I watch 'Sesame Street' in the mornings with a full new perspective."

"Avenue Q," the Tony-winning Broadway musical now playing at the Warner Theatre, features an ensemble of anxiety-ridden Generation Y puppets. The main character is Princeton, a young college graduate radiating youthful optimism and naivete. Upon arriving in New York City with nothing but a small bank account and good intentions, he finds that the only apartment he can afford is out on Avenue Q.

While on his quest to find a decent job and a stable relationship, he meets a colorful neighborhood of puppets. There's Trekkie Monster (the reclusive porn addict), Rod (a closeted investment banker) and Gary Coleman (who, after his time on "Diff'rent Strokes," has landed a job as superintendent on Avenue Q).

The onstage puppeteers assist the puppets in singing the musical's famously caustic and funny songs, few of which are suitable for youngsters. The soundtrack features songs such as "Everyone's a Little Bit Racist," "It Sucks To Be Me" and "What Do You Do With a B.A. in English?"

To hear Larsen tell the story, learning puppetry and making the puppets seem believable is a surprisingly Herculean feat.

"When I was in rehearsals, a bunch of my friends who had already been in 'Avenue Q' — and had already been through learning puppetry so fast — every single one of them asked me if I had cried yet during rehearsal," she said. "Because everyone, at a certain point, hits the wall, and they're like, 'I just can't do this; it's too hard.'"

The challenge, she says, lies in the multiple facets of bringing the puppet to life — keeping their eyes focused where your eyes are focused, trying to make them emote the way you want and making them walk as you do. Then there's also the small matter of learning all their lines and singing their songs.

> "When I was in rehearsals, a bunch of my friends who had already been in 'Avenue Q' ... asked me if I had cried during rehearsal."

"I had three weeks to learn everything — lines songs and puppetry. Believe you me, I was sweating a little bit."

Larsen saw "Avenue Q" during its initial Broadway run and felt a mix of excitement and melancholy — excitement because she was so enthusiastic about the production, but disappointed because she didn't think she'd be able to act in it because she wasn't a puppeteer.

However, as the supply of puppeteers willing to appear in the play diminished, "Avenue Q" started casting actors who could learn the craft. Larsen leapt at the opportunity.

Now, she plays two roles in the play's touring company: heroine Kate Monster (a kindergarten teaching assistant seeking a boyfriend and a chance to start a special school for monsters) and a sexy cabaret singer named, well, Lucy the Slut.

"I love Kate because she's so a girl who would be one of my best friends," Larsen said. "I would totally go out for a drink with her and talk about boys and lament our sad love lives."

Meanwhile, Lucy is the bad girl who gets to do and say what she wants: "I get to play the good girl and the bad girl in the same show — that's pretty awesome."

And despite the sincerity of Kate Monster and Princeton, there's plenty of bad girl (and bad boy) behavior in "Avenue Q." The show has famously billed itself as having full-frontal puppet nudity and features plenty of risqué scenes and graphic commentary.

"A lot of people come to the show because they've heard about the raunchy puppet show. It is all of that — it is raunchy and it is hilarious, but I think what they don't expect is that it's so well-written, it's so clever, so insightful and the dramatic structure is so sound. It's such a solid play that it makes it so easy for us."

Despite the naughty antics that the puppets get into, the show remains a crowd-pleaser for a wide variety of audiences.

"Audiences just love this show; maybe your church crowd on Sunday who are a little unsure of whether they're supposed to be laughing at this or not — by the end of the show, we always have them giving standing ovations." DAN MILLER

→ *Warner Theatre, 513 13th St. NW; through Feb. 15, $40-$45; 800-551-7328, warnertheatre.com. (Metro Center)*

Between Two Worlds

Rokia Traoré explores both her African and American influences

MUSIC | Growing up, Rokia Traoré didn't expect to become a professional musician. "Singing was a dream for me," the Malian vocalist says, "but I didn't know my dream could come true for a long time." Women in her class were generally discouraged from public performance, and Traoré was unsure she would be able to play her music, much less find an audience.

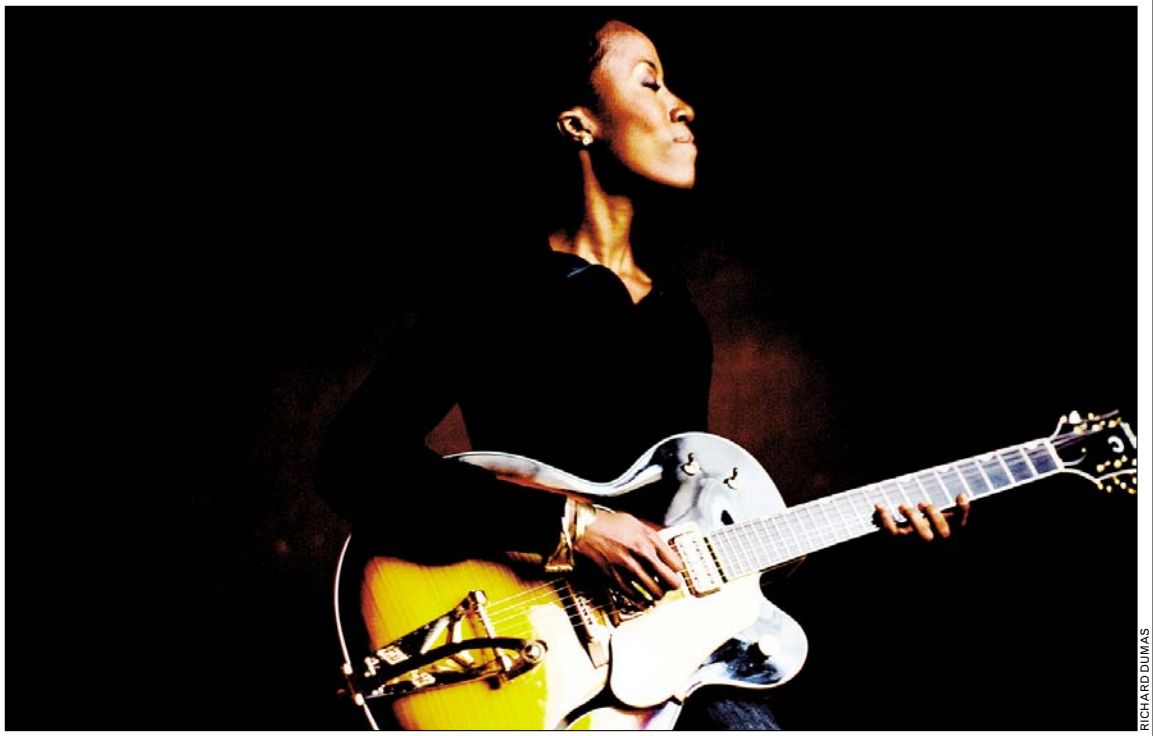
As a child, she traveled the world with her diplomat father and absorbed the culture and music of every place she visited. "Traveling made me more open-minded," she says, "and I discovered very early the limits of the world are not the Mali frontier. It gave me a larger vision of the world than someone who has stayed in the same country all the time."

That musical open-mindedness helped Traoré realize her dream, and after 14 years as a professional musician, she has established herself as one of world music's foremost synthesizers of African, American and European styles.

To record "Tchamantché," her fourth and most commanding album yet, she set aside her acoustic guitar and picked up a Gretsch, a favorite among '50s rockabilly musicians. Its dark, electrified tone gave her a more expansive palette, allowing her to mix blues, rock and jazz riffs with African rhythms. "I wanted something between two worlds," she explains, "not specifically one thing, but several things at the same time."

The freedom to write songs and experiment with her music, she says, would be impossible without her devoted audience, which she thanks on the final song on "Tchmantché," "A Ou ni Sou." "The audience is very important to me," Traoré explains, "because they give me this ability to make music and be happy. I don't have a word in our tongue to express how grateful I am to them."

STEPHEN M. DEUSNER



RICHARD DUMAS

DEVIATION: For her latest album, Rokia Traoré ditched her old acoustic guitar for a Gretsch to utilize its rockabilly capabilities.

> 'I discovered very early the limits of the world are not the Mali frontier.'

→ *Wolf Trap, the Barns, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna; Thu., 8 p.m., $25; 77-965-3872, wolftrap.org.*

An Electric Accordion

Andrea Parkins is an expert at electronic improvising onstage

MUSIC | Innovative accordionist and composer Andrea Parkins has always been flexible as an artist. Equally adept at arranging and improvising, Parkins has never been one to compartmentalize her work. For Parkins, the sound's the thing.

During her formative years in 1980s Boston, Parkins was a scene-making synth player by night and musique concrete composer by day. It was also around this time that Parkins got the itch for improvisation. "I don't separate them at all in my mind," says Parkins of her various past pursuits. "It was all about layers of sound and noise."

In and out of music school, Parkins later moved to New York City and became immersed in Gotham's downtown jazz music scene. Now more free to be inventive, Parkins took up the accordion and embraced the laptop computer as her primary sound processor, both of which gave her much more freedom for expression — especially when playing with others.

The result makes for strange harmony on "Cities and Eyes," her most recent recording with U.K. vocalist/composer Jessica Constable as the Skein. The pair's combined electronically tweaked mutterings weave a terrifically jittery tapestry. In an altogether different vein, Parkins' next release will be a re-working of a previous site-specific sound installation using invented and found objects, customized sound processing software and compositional structures.

"What I try to do in my composition is work with material that has the same gestural quality that improvisation can have," says Parkins, acknowledging that free-form expression doesn't always translate outside of a live setting. Flying solo Saturday at the Velvet Lounge, however, Parkins' improvisatory skills will be on dazzling display. JOHNATHAN RICKMAN

L. PARKINS

AVANT-GARDE: Andrea Parkins' musical skills truly shine in live performances.

→ *Velvet Lounge, 915 U St. NW; with Janel and Anthony, Susan Alcorn, Sat., 10 p.m., $10; 202-462-3213, velvetloungedc.com. (U St.-Cardozo)*

MUSIC | RISING STAR

CAROL FRIEDMAN

WIDE RANGING: The versatility of vocalist Shemekia Copeland is a thing to behold. She can sob out a mournful blues tune or raise the roof with high-energy funk or slip into soul as easily as a set of satin sheets. She swings by Wolf Trap for what's sure to be an unforgettable Valentine's Day performance.

A Rare Jewel Sparkles

Cucu Diamantes shines bright in her spirited solo debut

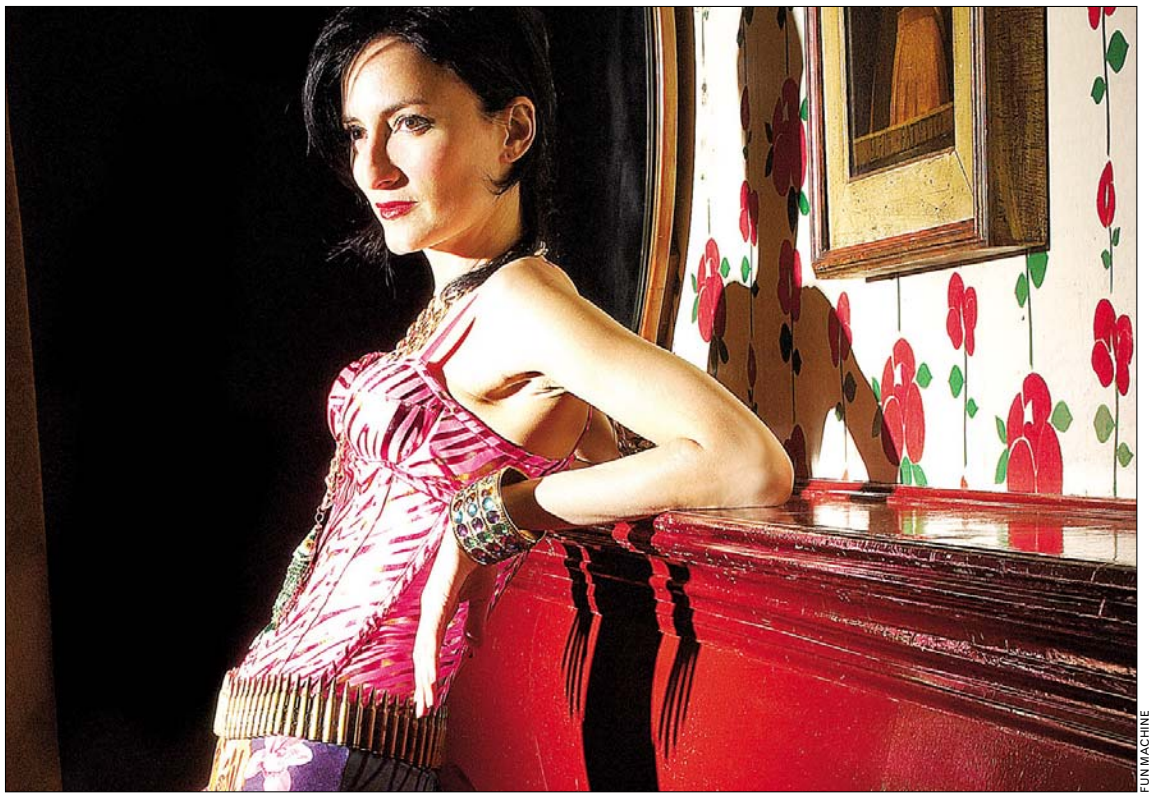
MUSIC | Cucu Diamantes sure knows how to make a guy feel at home. At the Latino Inaugural Gala, she switched the chorus from "Still in Love" to "Hoy Obama. Bienvenidos a Washington" ("Obama. Welcome to Washington today"), much to the delight of those in attendance.

"That performance was like my birthday — so much fun!" said the very excitable Diamantes. "He's all about change, so why not change the lyrics for that concert?"

The Cuban-born Diamantes has reason to be excited. Not only did she thrill the crowd at Union Station last month, but after nearly a decade as the frontwoman for Afro-Cuban funk, salsa, hip-hop and Nuyorican boogaloo fusion band Yerba Buena, she's releasing her debut solo album, "Cuculand," later this month.

"This album represents my past, present and future," said Diamantes, who will start recording again with Yerba Buena in a few months. "It was a visceral album, and it was the right time to do it."

The album's first single, "Algien" (featuring Yotuel of Cuban hip-hop pioneers Orishas), is a delight for the eardrum. A stirring big horn section, clap-along beat and backup vocalists greet listeners with "Ay, mama, Cucu!," and she replies with her trademark high nasal pitch and impressive spitfire rhymes.



FUN MACHINE

EXCITABLE GIRL: Singer Cucu Diamantes takes a break from Afro-Cuban funksters Yerba Beuna for a frenzied solo outing.

"It's a fun love song," she said in Spanish. "My friends always tell me that 'Ay, I can never find a perfect man.' I say that's impossible. You have to find a good man and accept his imperfections. Some of us are a diamond in the rough. Look at me; I'm a woman under construction."

The album is dedicated to women everywhere, and speaks about topics Diamantes has encountered from being mistreated ("Sentimiento"), being lied to ("Mentiras"), to undying love ("Still"). One of her more soulful and personal tracks is "Mas Fuerte," about moving on after a breakup in which she sings, "I'm stronger than you/I am more worthy than you/And I have a full life where you don't appear."

"This album is more Cucu," she said. "It's more about my feelings, my mental state. It's why I called it 'Cuculand.'" At the beginning of her music career, Diamante hung onto her childhood nickname Cucu and matched it with the stage name Diamantes (diamonds) because "it was shiny; it sparkled." This from a woman who, with Yerba Buena, dances around with a guy in a burro costume onstage.

> "We're all a little bit 'cucu' in our minds, a little bit crazy, sad, happy. With my shows, you can expect anything."

"We're all a little bit 'cucu' in our minds, a little bit crazy, sad, happy," she said. "With my shows, you can expect anything to happen, although it might be a little cold to bring a burro out of its stable."

ALFREDO FLORES

→ *Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW; with Bio Ritmo, Fri., $15-$18; 202-667-4490, blackcatdc.com. (U St.-Cardozo)*

Emotions In Motion

Max Ophuls kept romance and tragedy light on their feet

FILM | The films of Max Ophuls dance for us. The screen may be a static object, but works of the German auteur are in constant — fluid, graceful and unhurried.

AFI Silver Theatre pays homage to the emigre who spoke — and directed films in — three languages; jumped from city to city and eventually to Hollywood itself, where he continued to do sterling work; and gave dignity-magnet James Mason some of the most strange and sinister roles of his career.

"The Films of Max Ophuls" turn out to be more diverse and modern than fans of the most enduring Ophuls specificities remember. The savage little love tragedy "Liebelei," from 1933, finds the director's pet themes in place — a headlong affair; societal strictures and fatal secrets — but its tone is tough and war-haunted, a far cry from the frothy meringue of passion, jewelry, honor and dancing, dancing, dancing that drives the swirling 1953 film "The Earrings of Madame De ..." (Feb. 20-22, Feb. 26).

"Madame De ..." was Ophuls' last film and, despite its Viennese setting, also his Frenchiest. But even his Hollywood work had international style. "Letter From an Unknown Woman" (Fri.-Sun., also Feb. 18), from 1948, is another tragic romance, its epic sweep reduced to a pinpoint, as packed with tragedy as an atom with destruction. The year after, Ophuls made the gritty "Caught" (Sun. & Mon.) no less a devastating tale of a naive young woman's marital doom than Alfred Hitchcock's "Rebecca."

COURTESY AFI

BAD BEHAVIOR: Vittorio De Sica and Danielle Darrieux conspire in "Madame De ... ."

The director was no sentimentalist. He even outraged censors with 1950's "La Ronde" (Feb. 21 & Feb. 22) an aptly titled rondelay of amour in which a nasty STD is passsed among a chain of lovers.

'The Films of Max Ophuls' turn out to be more modern than fans remember.

Even Ophuls' later taste for historical dramas centered on romance, bitter at the edges. "From Mayerling to Sarajevo" (Feb. 23 & 25) and "Lola Montes" (Feb. 28, March 1 & 5) focus on women swept up by events and notoriety and abruptly left behind. Their tales aren't pretty, but the courtly European who told them lets the ladies dance every step of the way. ARION BERGER (EXPRESS)

→ *AFI Silver, 8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring; through March 5; 301-495-6700. (Silver Spring)*

ROAD TRIP | HANDMADE

COURTESY WALTERS

THE SCRIBE NEXT DOOR: "The Saint John's Bible: A Modern Vision Through Medieval Methods," opening on Sunday at the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore, showcases 44 contemporary illuminated manuscript pages from a Bible in progress. Yes, contemporary; the Bible is not yet finished.

Oceano Brings the Beef

A band's tumultuous history produces a sonic sea of bile

MUSIC | For a band that hasn't released its first album yet, Oceano has made a lot of headlines.

Whether it's a concert breaking into an audience brawl, the backyard wrestling shenanigans of brawny barker Adam Warren, a totaling van crash that left guitarist Andrew Mikhail and bassist Jason Jones injured on the eve of or a major tour, or the removal of founding guitarist Jeremy Carroll mere months before the April 7 release of "Depths" (Earache), the Chicago metalcore group knows from drama.

"If anything, I think it's been a really good thing," Warren said about all the tumult, his calming voice giving no hint of the ferocious growl with which he sings. "Especially getting our name out there. ... The way I felt was just, 'Bad luck at home. Once we get out of Chicago, get on the road, things will start looking up.'"

COURTESY EARACHE

TROUBLEMAKERS: Oceano has made a splash even without releasing a record.

Oceano's sonic ruckus is as disturbing as a tsunami, with the guitars tuned obscenely low, the blast beats dialed up high and Warren's vocals alternating between Cookie Monster growls and pig-squeal exhalations. But unlike so many metalcore lyricists, who are content flexing their lyrical muscles via revenge and gore blurbs, Warren's words follow narratives.

"I wanted to do stories," he said. "If we did a video for every song, we could go straight off the lyrics."

Thankfully, a lyric sheet will be included with "Depths," otherwise a song like "Fractured Frames, Scattered Flesh" might be mistaken as a paean to Warren's days as an amateur extreme wrestler.

"No, the song is about gravity increasing and everything on this Earth getting crushed," Warren laughed, which is exactly the sort of pressure that gives Oceano its bile and lifeblood. CHRISTOPHER PORTER (EXPRESS)

→ *Jaxx, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield; with Too Pure to Die, Thick as Blood, Catalepsy, Fri., 5 p.m., $12; 703-569-5940; jaxxroxx.com.*

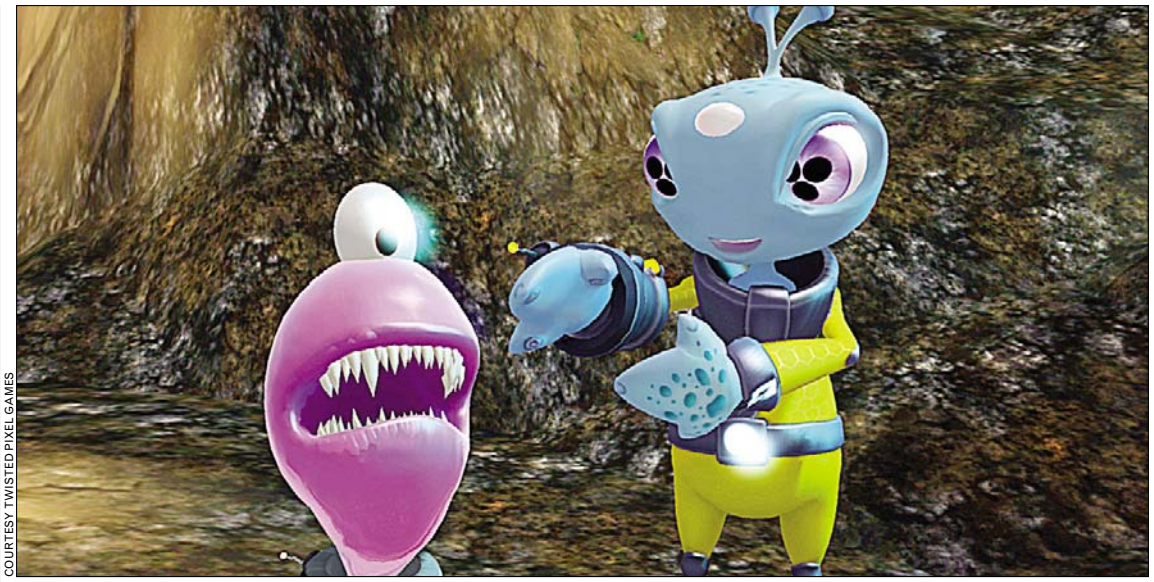
We Need More Maw

A blob's eating habits become more than just a health concern

VIDEO GAMES | With the costs of developing the current generation of games skyrocketing, publishers are turning ever more frequently to sequels and licensed franchises in order to keep those critical profit margins high.

While these big-budget blockbuster titles can still be fun, it's rare for them to really break the mold. In order to get that, you have to look at the downloadable game market. Such is the case with "The Maw," a 3-D platform game developed by Twisted Pixel Games and available for download from the Xbox Live Arcade on the 360.

You play as Frank, a childlike blue alien who, at the start of the game, has been captured by galactic bounty hunters and tossed into a cell where he first meets the titular Maw, a gelatinous blob with sharp teeth and described by the developer as "Loyal, indestructible, hungry. If he weren't a threat to all life in the universe, he'd make the perfect pet." After crash-landing on an alien planet, it's up to you to guide Frank and Maw's escape.



COURTESY TWISTED PIXEL GAMES

SMORGASBORD: Frank's loyal blob starts out as an innocent follower, but his appetite soon becomes a threat to the galaxy.

The focus here is Maw's ability to eat, absorb and evolve. Throughout, you'll be solving puzzles to feed Maw, who will continue to grow and occasionally gain new abilities. Starting smaller than Frank and being led around like a puppy, he soon grows large enough to be ridden like an elephant, then ... well, then he gets *really* big.

Crisp graphics that wouldn't be out of place in a Pixar movie, and a entertainingly dynamic music score, round out a package that is hilariously fun. Aimed at young and casual gamers, the experience is short (we beat it in a little under three hours), Twisted Pixel has plans to release more levels in the near future. At 800 Microsoft points (about $10), "The Maw" is well worth a look.

MICAH PEARSON (EXPRESS)

Take 10

THE WASHINGTON POST'S FILM CRITICS TACKLE THIS WEEK'S BOX-OFFICE TOP 10

1 | He's Just Not That Into You

This romantic comedy of interconnected pairings is the movie equivalent of a quick mani-pedi, with pleasures that go just about as deep and last just about as long. ANN HORNADAY

2 | Taken

A satisfying thriller as grimly professional as its efficient hero (Liam Neeson), "Taken" pairs ruthless hand-to-hand combat with a child-in-peril story. DAN KOIS

3 | Coraline

For all its visual delights, this fusion of low- and high-tech animation remains more an engaging spectacle than a connective drama. DESSON THOMSON

4 | The Pink Panther 2

Blue-chip performers are criminally wasted in the movie, which plays like a series of disconnected skits. Even Steve Martin's talents as a physical comedian are underused.

MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN

DARREN MICHAELS

GET A CLUE: Moviegoers were into "He's Just Not That Into You" last weekend.

5 | Paul Blart: Mall Cop

Kevin James gamely pratfalls and stumbles through 90 minutes of this unmemorable comedy. JEN CHANEY

6 | Push

A thriller about expatriates with paranormal powers, the movie doesn't trail an entrenched superhero franchise reheated every year to offend the fanboys. This is a good thing. DAN ZAK

7 | Slumdog Millionaire

With its timely setting of a swiftly globalizing India, "Slumdog Millionaire" plays like Charles Dickens for the 21st century. ANN HORNADAY

8 | Gran Torino

Clint Eastwood delivers a breathtaking performance in an appalling and hilarious role that recalls Eastwood vigilante thrillers past. ANN HORNADAY

9 | The Uninvited

Experienced horror fans will probably stay one step ahead of this remake of a Korean horror movie, but it's still a nice ride. MIKE MAYO

10 | Hotel for Dogs

The kids are cute, the dogs are cuter, and the adult world is defeated by truth, justice and Don Cheadle.

JOHN ANDERSON

Indies&Arties

A Pot o' Artistic Gold

The versatility of short films is on display when Les Lutins du Court Merage (those scamps at the Leprechauns of Short Film) screen numerous shorts at multiple locations this week. The short films, which are voted on by more than 2,000 professionals, represent the best French briefs of the year.

→ SEE FRENCHDC.ORG FOR FULL SCHEDULE; 202-234-7911, $8.

A Classic '80s Look

Anyone who's seen the definitive romantic teen comedy knows the appeal of donning a trench coat and declaring your love via cheesy pop. For those who haven't had the pleasure of seeing a desperate John Cusack try to win back Ione Skye in "Say Anything," find out what a boom box is for at AFI this weekend.

→ AFI SILVER, 8633 COLESVILLE ROAD, SILVER SPRING; FRI. & SUN., "SCREEN VALENTINES: GREAT MOVIE ROMANCES" RUNS THROUGH MARCH 5; 301-495-6720, AFI.COM/SILVER. (SILVER SPRING)

Love Under the Microscope

The Goethe-Institut, in cooperation with Alliance Française, mines European films for three in-depth looks at elemental human responses: love, laughter and fear. This weekend begins with love as Jean Renoir's exquisite 1939 romance "The Rules of the Game" screens. Washington Post film critic Desson Thomson leads a seminar — with film clips — before the screening as part of this all-day celebration of bittersweet amour.

JANUS FILMS

Turns out love was no less complicated in the 1939 of "The Rules of the Game."

→ GOETHE-INSTITUT, 812 7TH ST. NW; SAT., 2-7 P.M., $60 GENERAL PUBLIC; $50 ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE AND FOGI MEMBERS; $90/$80 COUPLES; $6/$4 SCREENING ONLY; 202-289-1200. (GALLERY PLACE-CHINATOWN)

WeekendPass | Entertainment

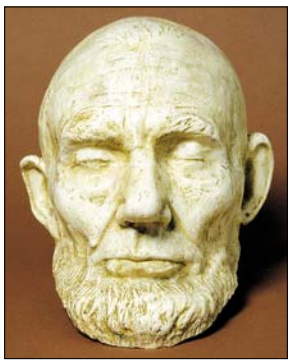
top stops WEEKEND

4 Tapping Into a New Talent

Famed dancer Savion Glover will try his hand — er feet — at classical tapping with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. This collaboration with the BSO allows him to tap to both conventional pieces as well as more upbeat pieces, resulting in high-intensity flashes and a dramatic climax.

➜ *Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, Bethesda; Fri., $25-$80; 301-581-5100, strathmore.org. (Grosvenor-Strathmore)*

3 Looks of Lincoln



Abraham Lincoln was known for his integrity and honesty. But many forget that his looks were pretty compelling, too. An assembly of Abe's illustrious portraits, artifacts and images are on display at the National Portrait Gallery.

➜ *National Portrait Gallery, 8th & F streets NW; through July 5, free; 202-633-1000, npg.se.edu. (Gallery Place-Chinatown)*

2 Behind the Bars at Gitmo

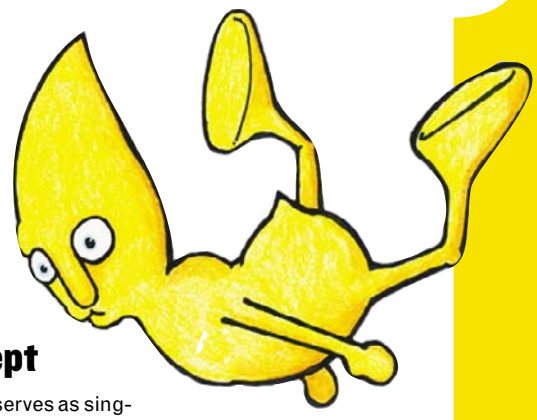
As the closing of Guantánamo Bay draws near, photographer Christopher Sims was able to capture some final, lasting images of the infamous prison, from humdrum desktops and office clocks to ironic images like that of the pristine table above.

➜ *Civilian Art Projects, 406 7th St. NW; Feb. 13; 202-347-0022, civilianartprojects.com.*

5 Flying Scottish Ballet

The Washington Ballet brings the lively Scottish-themed Highland Fling program to the Kennedy Center with August Bournonville's "La Sylphide." This rarely revived tragedy of love and delusion shows the Danish master at his most swooningly romantic.

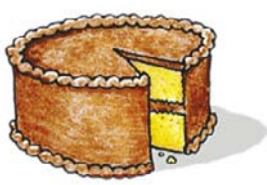
➜ *Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; through Sun., $29; 202-467-4600, kennedy-center.org. (Foggy Bottom-GWU)*



1 An Alien Concept

Performer Morgan Taylor serves as singer-illustrator for Gustafer Yellowgold, an alien creature with some crazy companions. Kids will be entranced by this extraterrestrial that lives in Minnesota, while adults will wonder which drug they need to take to understand this perplexing space invader.

➜ *Avalon Theatre, 5612 Connecticut Ave. NW; Sat., $8.50 general public, $5.50 Avalon Theatre members, 202-966-6000, theavalon.org. (Friendship Heights)*



The Scene

Sound

➜ THURSDAY

9:30 Club: Emmet Swimming, Trustfall, Adam Swink, Mike Mallick, 6 p.m., $15.

The Barns at Wolf Trap: Rokia Traoré, 8 p.m., $25.

Birchmere: Secondhand Serenade, Rookie of the Year, White Tie Affair, 7:30 p.m., $19.50.

Black Cat: (The Sounds of) Kaleidoscope, the Tennis System, Big Gold Belt, 9 p.m., $8 (backstage).

Blues Alley: Jerry Butler, 8 & 10 p.m., $43.

Bohemian Caverns: Large Professor, 9 p.m., free.

DC9: Sol Creech, Jesse Dee, Stacy Brooks, 8:30 p.m., $8.

Iota: Jerry Joseph, Steve Drizos & Bret Mosely, the Moderate, 9 p.m., $12.

Jammin' Java: Taarka, Roman Candle, Whiskey Rebellion, 8 p.m., $10.

The Red & the Black: Finding Fiction, the Charm Offensive, the B-Film Extras, Finver Four, 9 p.m., $6.

The Rock and Roll Hotel: "KT's Benefit Show," with Domino Team, Tom McBride & the Whig Party, Nacey & Steve Sparks, Will Eastman & more, 9 p.m., $5.

➜ FRIDAY

9:30 Club: Holy Ghost! (DJ Set) with Mike Simonetti, Will Eastman, 11 p.m., $15.

Birchmere: The Del McCoury Band, 7:30 p.m., $35.

Black Cat: Cucu Diamantes, Bio Ritmo, 9 p.m., $18 (mainstage). "Black Catatonia," '80s, hip-hop, soul, electronica, 10 p.m., $5 (backstage).

Blues Alley: Jerry Butler, 8 & 10 p.m., $43.

Bohemian Caverns: Heidi Martin Quartet, 8 & 10:30 p.m.

DAR Constitution Hall: Patti Labelle, 8 p.m., $85.

Iota: Honor by August, My Radio, Melodime, 9 p.m., $12.

Jammin' Java: Crash Boom Bang (CD release), the Dance Party, Boys Will Be Boys, Diesel Pigeons, 6 p.m., $15. K-Beta, Bo Jankans, D II, 10 p.m., $10.

Jaxx: Too Pure to Die, Oceano, Catalepsy, et al, 5 p.m., $12.

The Red & the Black: Iritis, Star Fk Radium, Letzkus Lanou, 9 p.m., $8.

The Rock and Roll Hotel: Imperial China, New Rock Church of Fire, the Sentiment, A Born Idler, 9 p.m., $10.

State Theatre: Bruce in the USA

COMPILED BY Express' Eric Anderson. Read more entertaiment picks every day — and find out what's coming up this weekend — at **expressnightout.com/topstops.**

WeekendPass

SOUL | A VOICE BY ANY OTHER NAME

MATT SAYLES

PRESSING ON: Patti Labelle never had to give herself a new name and persona to describe her ferocious side — we're talking to you, Sasha Fierce. The soul and R&B diva with the cooking skills and winningly odd nasal singing voice does some rafter-shaking at Constitution Hall on Friday.

(Springsteen tribute band), 9 p.m., $18.

➜ SATURDAY

9:30 Club: Rodney Atkins, the Lost Trailers, 7 p.m., $35.

Black Cat: "Mousetrap," Brit-pop dance night, 9:30 p.m., $10 (mainstage). The Ambitions, the Electricutions, 8 p.m., $8 (backstage).

Blues Alley: Jerry Butler, 8 & 10 p.m., $92 dinner and show.

Bohemian Caverns: Bilal, 7:30 & 10 p.m., $25.

DC9: Feedback Dance Party, 10 p.m., $8.

Iota: "A Reggae Valentine" with See-I, 9 p.m., $12.

Jaxx: "St. Valentine's Day Massacre," with Sobriquet, 7 p.m., $12.

The Red & the Black: Drunken Banshee, Outer Body Llama, the Jar Babies, 9 p.m., $8.

The Rock and Roll Hotel: "ElectroLove and Heartbreak," dance party with DJ Doc Rock & DJ Jackie-O, 9 p.m., $5.

State Theatre: The Legwarmers, 9 p.m., $16.

➜ SUNDAY

9:30 Club: "Next Big Thing," daylong local alternative and punk acts, 11 a.m., $15.

Birchmere: Cowboy Junkies, 7:30 p.m., sold out.

Black Cat: Kevin Seconds, Vic Ruggiero, Kepi Ghoulie, 9 p.m., $10.

Blues Alley: Jerry Butler, 8 & 10 p.m., $43.

DC9: "Next Big Thing," daylong local alternative and punk acts, 11 a.m., $15.

Galaxy Hut: Prabir & the Substitutes, Palominos, 9 p.m., $5.

Iota: King Giant, Phoebus, 8:30 p.m., $10.

Jaxx: Localpalooza with Veil of Maya, After the Burial, Abacabb, 1 p.m., $14.

The Rock and Roll Hotel: "Next Big Thing," daylong local alternative and punk acts, 11 a.m., $15.

Sight

Aaron Gallery: "Winter Relief," exhibition of paintings from Carol Engles, Chico Harkrader and Kari Minnick, through Feb. 28. Aaron Gallery, 1717 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-234-3311, aarongallerydc.com.

American University/Katzen Arts Center: "Carrie Moyer: Painting Propaganda," thin oranges and reds mix to form powerful and violent images, through March 15. "Paul Daniel: Kinetic Sculpture," large, flowing outdoor sculptures, through March 22. "Evri Kwong: Just Pretend Everything Is OK," societal ills confronted through narrative painting, through March 22. Katzen Arts Center, 4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW; 202-885-2787, american.edu/academic.depts/cas/katzen/.

Anacostia Community Museum: "Jubilee: African American Celebration," a series of photographs of black celebrations from baptisms to Mardi Gras to Election Day, through Sept. 20. 1901 Fort Place SE; 202-633-1000, anacostia.si.edu.

Arlington Arts Center: "Public/Private," various artists explore interior and exterior representation, through April 4. 3550 Wilson Blvd., Arlington; 703-248-6849, arlingtonartscenter.org.

The Art Gallery at the University of

Continued on E12

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13 FRI ★ NSO Prelude
Members of the National Symphony Orchestra play works by Handel, Halvorsen, and Brahms.

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14 SAT ★ The Paschall Brothers
Five-man group showcases Virginia Tidewater Gospel a cappella.
Presented in cooperation with the National Museum for African American History and Culture.

IN THE CONCERT HALL

15 SUN ★ High School Division of the NSO Young Soloists' Competition
Final round for grand prize, cash, and a solo performance with the NSO.

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16 MON ★ Cleveland Institute of Music
Works by Schumann, Haydn, and more.

17 TUE ★ Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University
Works by Chopin, Verdi, and more.

18 WED ★ Curtis Institute of Music
Works by Bach, Mozart, and more.

19 THU ★ University of Michigan School of Music, Theater, and Dance
Works by Beethoven, Crumb, and more.

20 FRI ★ New England Conservatory of Music
Works by Martini, Czerny, and more.

21 SAT ★ The Peabody Conservatory of Music at Johns Hopkins University
Works by Chopin, Ligeti, Schubert, and original compositions.

IN THE CONCERT HALL

22 SUN ★ NSO Youth Orchestra
D.C.-area High school students perform movements from symphonies by Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, and Dvořák.

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23 MON ★ Oud Knights: When Oud Speaks
Traditional *oud* players from Bahrain.

IN THE EISENHOWER THEATER

24 TUE ★ Al-Farah Choir: Damascene Jasmine
More than 100 children perform Byzantine, Muslim, and Arab songs.

25 WED ★ Al Andalous Orchestra with Mohammed Bajeddoub, Bahae Ronda
The orchestra from Rabat, Morocco, performs traditional songs and chants using Arabic poems and traditional instruments.

MON 16 ★ JOSUE GONZALEZ-DAVILA

FRI 20 ★ SOOYUN KIM

MON 23 ★ OUD KNIGHTS

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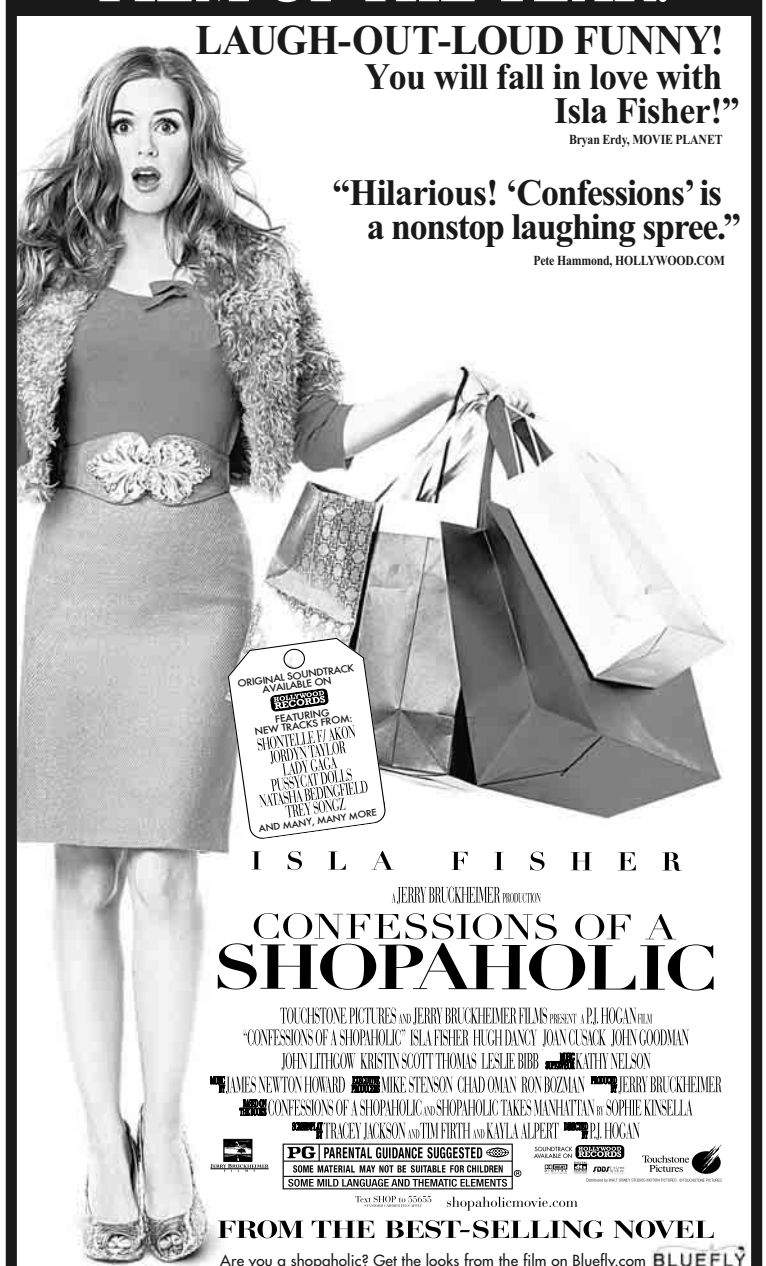

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WeekendPass | Entertainment

TheScene

Continued from E11

Maryland: Curvilinear patterns form the basis of two large-scale drawing installations from Linn Meyers; sound artist Richard Chartier provides the music, through March 13. University of Maryland, College Park; 301-405-2763, artgallery.umd.edu.

LAST CHANCE Art Whino Gallery: "Proof of Faith," painter Bryan Collins confronts a bleak future with cautious, cartoonish optimism, through Sun. 173 Waterfront St., National Harbor; 301-567-8210, artwhino.com.

Arthur M. Sackler Gallery: "Moving Perspectives: Lida Abdul and Dinh Q Le," video art by Afghani artist Lida Abdul and Dinh Q Le of Vietnam explores the shifting nature of traumatic memories and the resilience of life, through March 1. "Winslow Homer: Four Views of Nature," through May 25. "Perspectives: Anish Kapoor," the artist's "S-Curve," a large-scale installation, through July 19. 1050 Independence Ave. SW; 202-633-1000, asia.si.edu.

Civilan Arts Projects: "Semi-Final Frontiers," wild, exotic colors in Seth Adelsberge's paintings and murals, reception Fri., 7-9 p.m., through March 14. "Guantanamo Bay," 25 photographs from everyday life at the notorious detention camp, reception Fri., 7-9 p.m., through March 14. 406 7th St. NW; 202-347-0022, civilianartprojects.com.

Conner Contemporary Art: "Unknowns," John Kirchner adds clothing and other objects to the works of anonymous painters. "The Shape We're In," video projections from Brandon Morse examine human overreach and collapse, through March 31. 1358-60 Florida Ave. NE; 202-588-8750, connercontemporary.com.

Corcoran Gallery of Art: Closed for renovations until March 14. 500 17th St. NW; 202-639-1700, corcoran.org.

LAST CHANCE Curator's Office: "Lucid Dreaming: Simon Gouverneur, Jason Hughes, Paul Laffoley," modern visionary works with a dreamlike quality, through Sat. 1515 14th St. NW; 202-387-1008, curatorsoffice.com.

DAR Museum: "Return to Toyland," this playful exhibition celebrates childhood of the past with late 19th- and early 20th-century toys, through Feb. 28. 1776 D St. NW; 202-879-3241. dar.org/museum.

D.C. Arts Center: "Genetic Drift," Gretchen Schermerhorn explores the relationship between art and science, reception Fri., 7-9 p.m., through March 22. 2438 18th St. NW; 202-462-7833, dcartscenter.org.

District Fine Arts: "Leah Tinari: Masquerade Madness," Tinari's exaggerated party people are in the house, through March 28. 1639 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 202-328-9100, dfaonline.com.

Ellipse Arts Center: "Crossing Glances/Regards Croises," Arlington photographer John Babineau and his French counterpart, Cecile Bethleem, exchange photographic glances of each other's home cities, through March 28. 4350 Fairfax Drive, Arlington; 703-228-7710, arlingtonarts.org.

Embassy of Canada: "50 Years of American Photojournalism," collection of period defining photographs from Ryerson's Black Star Historical Black & White Photography Collection, through June 12. 501 Pennsylvania Ave, NW; 202-682-1740, canadianembassy.org.

Folger Shakespeare Library: Shakespeare's First Folio and other works on permanent display, 201 East Capitol St. SE; 202-544-7077, folger.edu.

Foundry Gallery: "Reshuet," paintings by Doris Colbert Kennedy, Marina Reiter and Ron Riley center on the theme of joy, through March 1. 1314 18th St. NW; 202-463-0203, foundry-gallery.org.

Freer Gallery of Art: "Guests of the Hills: Travelers and Recluses in Chinese Landscape Painting," through Feb. 22. "Golden Seams: The Japanese Art of Mending Ceramics," a show demonstrating the ceramic-mending methods of Japanese craftsmen, through April 5. "Moonlight and Golden Clouds: Silver and Gold in the Arts of Japan," painting, calligraphy, lacquer, metalwork and architecture, through April 5. "Winslow Homer: Four

Continued on E14

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venues

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➜ **BLUES ALLEY:** 1073 WISCONSIN AVE. NW; 202-337-414, BLUESALLEY.COM.

➜ DAR CONSTITUTION HALL: 1776 D ST. NW; 800-551-7328, DAR.ORG/CONSTHALL.

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➜ **KENNEDY CENTER:** 2700 F ST. NW; 202-467-4600, KENNEDY-CENTER.ORG.

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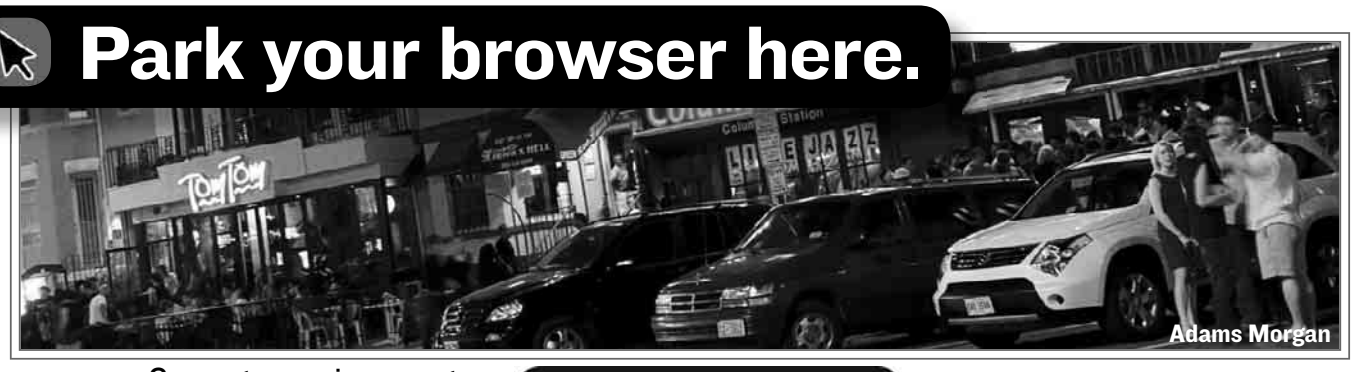

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TheScene

Continued from E12

Views of Nature," through May 25. Jefferson Drive & 12th Street SW; 202-633-1000, asia.si.edu.

Gallery Neptune: "Into the Open," Emily Piccirillo explores man's tenuous connection to the natural world, through Feb. 28. 5001 Wilson Lane, Bethesda; 301-718-0809, galleryneptune.com.

Gallery at the Embassy of Australia: "The Exquisite Pirate by Sally Smart," an exploration of femininity and sexuality through a large-scale collage of pirate ships, through April 3. 1601 Massachusetts Ave. NW; 202-797-3165.

LAST CHANCE G Fine Art: "This Is Our Music," Ian Whitmore's polyglot style is on display through a series of paintings tied together by recurring motifs, through Sat. 1515 14th St. NW; 202-462-1601, gfineartdc.com.

Goethe-Institut: "Ivonne Thein: Thirty-Two Kilos," this photographic exhibition examines the subject of anorexia, through Feb. 27. 812 7th St. NW; 202-289-1200, goethe.de/ins/us/was/enindex.htm.

Hemphill Fine Arts Gallery: "A Homecoming Celebration," selections from one of the oldest collections of African-American art, through March 7. 1515 14th St. NW; 202-234-5601, hemphillfinearts.com.

H& F Fine Arts Gallery: "Fragmented Idioms," the dilemma of race in art is explored in Anthony Armstrong's mixed-media compositions. "Obama: Art and Politics," paintings, drawings, collage, through Feb. 28. 3311 Rhode Island Ave.; 301-887-0080, hffinearts.com.

The Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts Gallery at Smith Farm Center: "Positive Exposure: The South Asian Experience Through the Camera Eye," through Feb. 28. 1632 U St. NW; 202-483-8600, smithfarm.com.

Hirshhorn: "Directions: Terence Gower, Public Spirit" features plans for Hirshhorn's art-based town in the wilderness of

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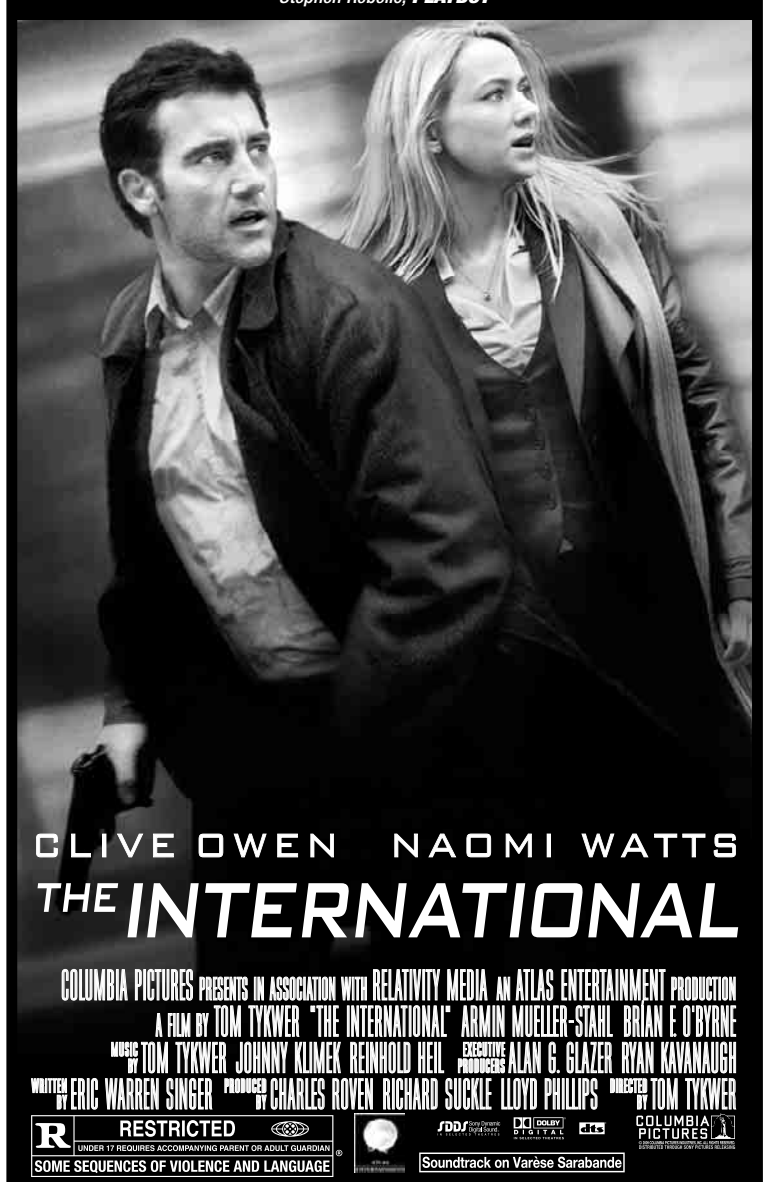

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TheScene

Canada, through March 22. "Black Box: Ori Gersht," through April 12. "Strange Bodies: Figurative Works From the Hirshhorn Collection," through early 2010. 7th Street & Independence Avenue SW; 202-633-1000, hirshhorn.org.

Historical Society of Washington: "Quilts for Obama," more than 60 interpretive quilts, through July 26. "Portraying Lincoln: A Man of Many Faces," mixed-media portraits of the 16th president, through Nov. 8. 801 K St. NW; 202-383-1850.

International Spy Museum: Permanent displays of wristwatch cameras, poison gas guns, a World War II Enigma cipher machine and other coding machines, disguises, etc. 800 F St. NW; 202-393-7798, spymuseum.org.

LAST CHANCE Irvine Contemporary: "Aspect:Ratio 2," small-format paintings, through Sat. 1412 14th St. NW; 202-332-8767, irvinecontemporary.com.

Kathleen Ewing Gallery: "Birth Place," photographs by Rob McDonald. "Egg & Nest," photographs by Rosamond Purcell. "Over: The American Landscape at the Tipping Point," photographs by Alex MacLean, through Feb. 28. 1767 P St. NW; 202-328-0955.

Koshland Science Museum: "Global Warming Facts & Our Future," "Infectious Disease: Evolving Challenges to Human Health," "Wonders of Science," ongoing. 6th & E streets NW; 202-334-1201,

Continued on E16

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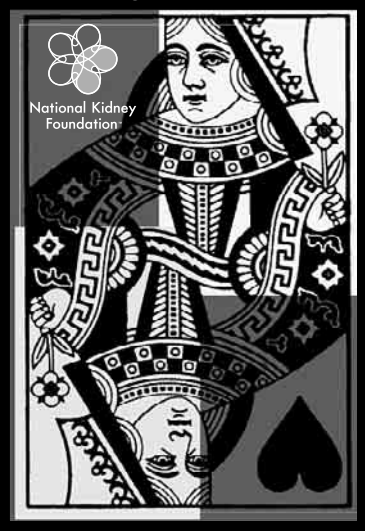

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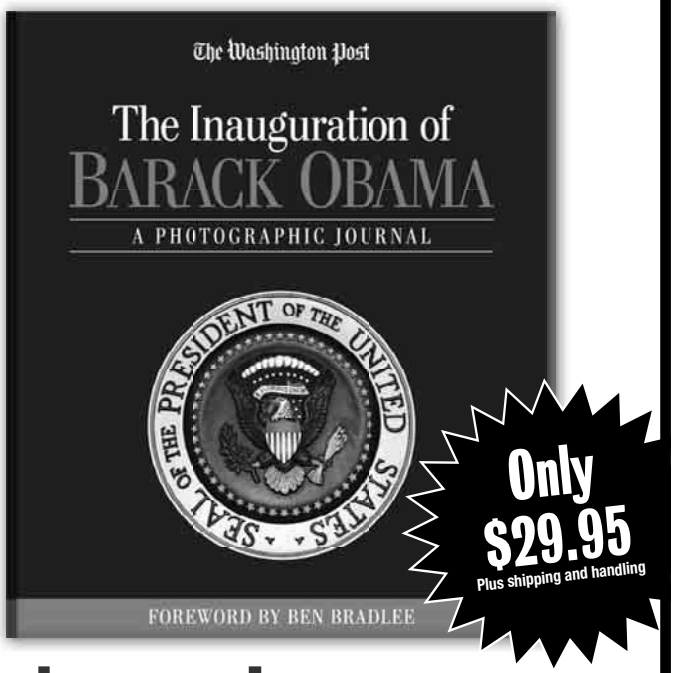

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Tue. Mar. 3 • 8pm
GW's Lisner Aud., Wash., DC
On Sale now thru Ticketmaster!
From the CBS hit show Gary Unmarried
JAY MOHR
Fri. Apr. 10 • 8pm
Lisner auditorium
Presented by The Birchmere & AM Productions

WeekendPass | Entertainment

TheScene

Continued from E15

koshland-science-museum.org.

Library of Congress: "Creating the United States," American treasures including a draft of the Declaration of Independence, ongoing. 101 1st St. SE; 202-707-4604. loc.gov.

Madame Tussauds: "Black History Discovery Trail," a collection of more than a dozen wax figures of famous African-Americans, through March 1. 1025 F St. NW; 202-942-7300. madametussaudsdc.com.

Mansion at Strathmore: "Potomac Valley Watercolorists 25th Anniversary," a juried exhibition featuring original work by top watercolor artists, through Feb. 21. 10701 Rockville Pike, Bethesda; 301-581-5100, strathmore.org.

Marsha Mateyka Gallery: "Strata," photographs from Susan Elder and Craig Dennis of naturally occuring letter, figure and object shapes in the clouds, through March 21. 2012 R St. NW; 202-328-0088, marshamateykagallery.com.

National Academy of Sciences: "The Theater of Insects," photographs from Jo Whaley, through March 3. 2100 C St. NW; 202-334-2436, nasonline.org.

National Aquarium: Celebrate America's aquatic treasures in this beautiful refurbished underground space, ongoing. 14th Street & Constitution Avenue NW; 202-482-2825, nationalaquarium.com.

National Building Museum: "Detour: Architecture & Design along 18 National Tourist Routes in Norway," through May 25. "Green Community" explores communities united by a quest for ecological sustainability, through Oct. 25. "Cityscapes Revealed: Highlights From the Collection," "Investigating Where We Live," "Washington, Symbol and City," ongoing. 401 F St. NW; 202-272-2448, nbm.org.

National Gallery of Art, East Building: "Pompeii and the Roman Villa: Art and Culture Around the Bay of Naples,"

Continued on E18

STAGE | LAUGH-IN AGAIN

COURTESY OF PHOTOFEST

HISTORY LESSON: Fifty years into puncturing the pompous' balloons and bickering over familial minutiae, the Smothers Brotheres are still at it, bringing their sunny brand of satire to the Kennedy Center this weekend. Don't let the Haight-Ashbury frat boy package disguise these poison pills.

REGAL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP

ROCKVILLE CENTER STADIUM 13
Rockville Town Center 800-FANDANGO 248#
Adv. Tix on Sale TYLER PERRY'S: MADEA GOES TO JAIL
Adv. Tix on Sale FRIDAY THE 13TH
FRIDAY THE 13TH - MIDNITE (R) - ID REQ'D 1201 AM
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13) (1245 400) 715 1030
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) (130 415) 645 915
PUSH (PG-13) (145 430) 730 1015
CORALINE - 3D (PG) ★ (145 430) 700 930
TAKEN (PG-13) (1200 230 500) 800 1030
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) - ID REQ'D (1215 330) 630 930
NEW IN TOWN (PG-13) (200 430) 715 945
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG-13) (100 PM 445 PM) 830 PM
DEFIANCE (R) - ID REQ'D (1230 345) 645 1000
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) (115 345) 630 915
GRAN TORINO (R) - ID REQ'D (1200 315) 615 900
PAUL BLART MALL COP (PG) (115 330) 600 815 1030
UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (200 PM) 1015 PM
OC: UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (445 PM) 745 PM

GERMANTOWN STADIUM 14
20000 Century Blvd 800-FANDANGO 455#
Adv. Tix on Sale TYLER PERRY'S: MADEA GOES TO JAIL
Adv. Tix on Sale FRIDAY THE 13TH
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) (130 330 430) 630 730 900 1000
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13) (100 400) 715 1020
CORALINE (PG) (120 410) 700 930
PUSH (PG-13) (145 445) 745 1030
TAKEN (PG-13) (300 415 530) 720 830 950 1045
THE UNINVITED (PG-13) (250 515) 800 1010
NEW IN TOWN (PG-13) (110 350) 640 920
UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (215 PM) 815 PM
OC: UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (500 PM) 1040 PM
INKHEART (PG) (100 PM)
PAUL BLART MALL COP (PG) (200 440) 750 1015
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) (100 PM 315 PM) 620 PM
BRIDE WARS (PG) (110 PM)
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG-13) 910 PM
GRAN TORINO (R) - ID REQ'D (345 PM) 650 PM 940 PM
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) - ID REQ'D (115 420) 710 1000

UA SNOWDEN SQ STADIUM 14
9161 Commerce Ctr Dr 800-FANDANGO 570#
Adv. Tix on Sale TYLER PERRY'S: MADEA GOES TO JAIL
Adv. Tix on Sale FRIDAY THE 13TH
PUSH (PG-13) (140 420) 720 1000
CORALINE (PG) (130 410) 715 950
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) (115 400) 700 940
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13) (210 500) 750 1035
NEW IN TOWN (PG-13) (110 340) 640 910
THE UNINVITED (PG-13) (220 520) 800 1015
TAKEN (PG-13) (150 430) 730 1010
OC: UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (530 PM) 1030 PM
INKHEART (PG) (1255 PM)
UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (230 PM) 810 PM
PAUL BLART MALL COP (PG) (120 350) 645 920
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) (100 PM 330 PM) 630 PM
DEFIANCE (R) - ID REQ'D (135 PM)
REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) - ID REQ'D 900 PM
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG-13) (435 PM) 815 PM
THE WRESTLER (R) - ID REQ'D (205 510) 755 1020
GRAN TORINO (R) - ID REQ'D (405 PM) 650 PM 930 PM
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) - ID REQ'D (200 445) 740 1025

MAJESTIC STADIUM 20
900 Ellsworth Dr, Silver Spring, MD 240-393-4826
Adv. Tix on Sale TYLER PERRY'S: MADEA GOES TO JAIL
Adv. Tix on Sale FRIDAY THE 13TH
FRIDAY THE 13TH - MIDNITE (R) - ID REQ'D 1201 AM
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) (1240 300 520) 750 1005
RW & DA: PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) (1210 215 425) 640 850
CORALINE (PG) (1200 225 450) 715 945
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13) (1230 130 320 440) 630 730 920 1020
PUSH (PG-13) (1245 310 540) 815 1045
TAKEN (PG-13) (140 235 350 455) 615 720 830 935 1040
NEW IN TOWN (PG-13) (1250 305 525) 755 1010
THE UNINVITED (PG-13) (1235 245 515) 740 1015
INKHEART (PG) (1200 PM 230 PM 500 PM)
UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (1225 240 505) 735 1000
RW: PAUL BLART MALL COP (PG) (100 340) 620 845 1100
NOTORIOUS (R) - ID REQ'D (220 510) 800 1050
DEFIANCE (R) - ID REQ'D (1220 400) 725 1035
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) (155 420) 710 930
BRIDE WARS (PG) (1215 PM)
NOT EASILY BROKEN (PG-13) (145 PM) 655 PM
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG-13) (1205 330) 700 1030
THE READER (R) - ID REQ'D (110 355) 650 940
GRAN TORINO (R) - ID REQ'D (405 PM) 915 PM
FROST NIXON (R) - ID REQ'D 745 PM 1025 PM
MILK (R) - ID REQ'D (120 410) 705 955

ROYALE STADIUM 14
6505 America Blvd, Hyattsville, MD 301-864-3456
Adv. Tix on Sale TYLER PERRY'S: MADEA GOES TO JAIL
Adv. Tix on Sale FRIDAY THE 13TH
FRIDAY THE 13TH - MIDNITE (R) - ID REQ'D 1201 AM
CORALINE (PG) (1235 300 525) 750 1015
PUSH (PG-13) (1210 250 530) 800 1030
RW & DA: PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) (1215 230 445) 715 930
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13) (1205 315) 705 955
TAKEN (PG-13) (1230 255 520) 740 1005
RW & DA: TAKEN (PG-13) (1200 225 450) 710 935
NEW IN TOWN (PG-13) (1255 350) 755 1020
THE UNINVITED (PG-13) (1240 305 515) 735 950
UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (100 430) 700 1010
NOTORIOUS (R) - ID REQ'D (1245 420) 725 1025
PAUL BLART MALL COP (PG) (1220 240 500) 730 940
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) (1250 PM 320 PM) 655 PM
NOT EASILY BROKEN (PG-13) (105 PM) 720 PM
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG-13) 925 PM
GRAN TORINO (R) - ID REQ'D (425 PM) 1000 PM
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) - ID REQ'D (1225 340) 650 945

BETHESDA 10
7272 Wisconsin Avenue 800-FANDANGO 569#
Adv. Tix on Sale FRIDAY THE 13TH
PUSH (PG-13) (1200 230 500) 730 1000
CORALINE (PG) (140 410) 640 910
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) (1200 210 440) 710 930
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13) (200 450) 740 1030
NEW IN TOWN (PG-13) (1205 220 440) 700 920
TAKEN (PG-13) (1230 300 520) 750 1010
PAUL BLART MALL COP (PG) (115 330 545) 800 1015
DEFIANCE (R) - ID REQ'D (120 420) 720 1020
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) (140 PM 400 PM)
LAST CHANCE HARVEY (PG-13) (1250 310 530) 810 1030
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG-13) 650 PM 1015 PM

BOWIE STADIUM 14
15200 Major Lansdale Blvd 800-FANDANGO 454#
Adv. Tix on Sale TYLER PERRY'S: MADEA GOES TO JAIL
Adv. Tix on Sale FRIDAY THE 13TH
FRIDAY THE 13TH - MIDNITE (R) - ID REQ'D 1201 AM
CORALINE - 3D (PG) ★ (130 400) 700 945
PUSH (PG-13) (215 515) 745 1030
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) (230 500) 730 1000
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13) (115 415) 715 1015
THE UNINVITED (PG-13) (100 315 545) 815 1030
TAKEN (PG-13) (115 230 330 445 545) 700 800 1015
INKHEART (PG) (100 PM)
UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (1245 315 530) 745 1000
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) - ID REQ'D (200 445) 730 1015
NOTORIOUS (R) - ID REQ'D (1245 330) 630 930
PAUL BLART MALL COP (PG) (1245 245 500) 715 930
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) (145 PM 415 PM) 645 PM
GRAN TORINO (R) - ID REQ'D (345 PM) 630 PM 915 PM
NOT EASILY BROKEN (PG-13) (215 515) 745 1030
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG-13) 915 PM

GALLERY PLACE STADIUM 14
701 Seventh St NW 800-FANDANGO 1721#
Adv. Tix on Sale TYLER PERRY'S: MADEA GOES TO JAIL
Adv. Tix on Sale FRIDAY THE 13TH
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) (1215 245) 515 740 1010
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13) (1205 1250) 310 400 610 715 920 1020
PUSH (PG-13) (1235) 350 700 1000
NEW IN TOWN (PG-13) (1200 225) 445 710 935
THE UNINVITED (PG-13) (1225 240) 535 800 1030
TAKEN (PG-13) (1210 230) 415 500 630 730 900 950
OC: UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (300 PM) 1035 PM
UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (1240 PM) 545 PM 815 PM
NOTORIOUS (R) - ID REQ'D 1025 PM
PAUL BLART MALL COP (PG) (1220 235) 450 720 940
DEFIANCE (R) - ID REQ'D (1150 AM)
MY BLOODY VALENTINE 3D (R) - ID REQ'D ★ (1155 220 510) 745 1015
BRIDE WARS (PG) (1145 AM 200 PM)
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG-13) (250 PM) 620 PM 955 PM
GRAN TORINO (R) - ID REQ'D (100) 345 640 930
FROST NIXON (R) - ID REQ'D (110 PM) 445 PM 735 PM

BALLSTON COMMON STADIUM 12
671 N Glebe Rd 800-FANDANGO 377#
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) (140 240 410 510) 640 740 910 1010
NEW IN TOWN (PG-13) (250 515) 735 1015
TAKEN (PG-13) (135 415 455) 655 730 915 1020
INKHEART (PG) (110 PM)
UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (115 405) 720 1005
PAUL BLART MALL COP (PG) (200 435) 745 1020
NOTORIOUS (R) - ID REQ'D (155 PM)
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) (150 PM 430 PM) 715 PM
REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) - ID REQ'D (420 PM) 700 PM 1000 PM
LAST CHANCE HARVEY (PG-13) (350 PM) 620 PM 850 PM
DOUBT (PG-13) (130 PM)
GRAN TORINO (R) - ID REQ'D (105 400) 710 955
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) - ID REQ'D (100 355) 650 950
RACHEL GETTING MARRIED (R) - ID REQ'D 935 PM

POTOMAC YARD STADIUM 16
3575 Jefferson Davis Hwy 800-FANDANGO 690#
Adv. Tix on Sale TYLER PERRY'S: MADEA GOES TO JAIL
Adv. Tix on Sale FRIDAY THE 13TH
CORALINE - 3D (PG) ★ (120 400) 640 915
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) (200 435) 700 930
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13) (1210 110 320 420) 630 730 940 1040
PAUL BLART MALL COP (PG) (100 350) 620 850
PUSH (PG-13) (140 PM 430 PM) 720 PM
NEW IN TOWN (PG-13) (205 450) 725 1000
TAKEN (PG-13) (240 410 510) 650 750 920 1020
THE UNINVITED (PG-13) (1245 330) 600 825
OC: UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (340 PM) 845 PM
UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (115 PM) 610 PM
INKHEART (PG) (215 PM)
NOTORIOUS (R) - ID REQ'D 950 PM
DEFIANCE (R) - ID REQ'D (1240 PM 425 PM) 740 PM
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) (150 PM 440 PM) 710 PM
BRIDE WARS (PG) (130 PM)
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG-13) (1250 PM 445 PM) 830 PM
FROST NIXON (R) - ID REQ'D (500 PM) 800 PM
GRAN TORINO (R) - ID REQ'D (300 PM) 600 PM 900 PM
FRIDAY THE 13TH - MIDNITE (R) - ID REQ'D 1201 AM

KINGSTOWNE STADIUM 16
5910 Kingstowne Towne Center 703-822-4956
Adv. Tix on Sale TYLER PERRY'S: MADEA GOES TO JAIL
Adv. Tix on Sale FRIDAY THE 13TH
RW: HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13) (1215 315) 615 910
PUSH (PG-13) (1200 235 510) 745 1020
CORALINE (PG) (1200 225 455) 725 955
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) (1230 245 500) 800 1015
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13) (1245 400) 720 1020
NEW IN TOWN (PG-13) (120 PM 345 PM) 740 PM
THE UNINVITED (PG-13) (1220 230 445) 750
TAKEN (PG-13) (1235 300 415 520) 630 735 1000
INKHEART (PG) (1210 PM)
UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (110 330) 605 850
PAUL BLART MALL COP (PG) (1205 220 435) 705 920
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) (1255 PM 425 PM) 715 PM
BRIDE WARS (PG) (100 PM)
REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) - ID REQ'D 945 PM
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG-13) (240 PM) 620 PM
THE WRESTLER (R) - ID REQ'D (115 PM 355 PM) 650 PM
GRAN TORINO (R) - ID REQ'D (105 405) 700 940
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) - ID REQ'D (1250 340) 635 925
FRIDAY THE 13TH - MIDNITE (R) - ID REQ'D 1201 AM

COUNTRYSIDE STADIUM 20
45980 Regal Plaza 800-FANDANGO 394#
Adv. Tix on Sale TYLER PERRY'S: MADEA GOES TO JAIL
Adv. Tix on Sale FRIDAY THE 13TH
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) - ID REQ'D (1210 310) 610 905
THE WRESTLER (R) - ID REQ'D (1240 315) 615 850
MILK (R) - ID REQ'D (410 PM) 715 PM 1020 PM
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG-13) (1235 PM 425 PM) 805 PM
REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) - ID REQ'D 855 PM
GRAN TORINO (R) - ID REQ'D (1250 335) 620 920
DOUBT (PG-13) (125 PM)
PUSH (PG-13) (115 405) 700 945
CORALINE - 3D (PG) (120 420) 720 950
NEW IN TOWN (PG-13) (145 435) 745 1015
THE UNINVITED (PG-13) (1205 225 450) 725 945
TAKEN (PG-13) (1220 240 400 505) 650 750 910 1010
OC: UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (500 PM) 1025 PM
INKHEART (PG) (100 PM 340 PM) 645 PM
UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (150 PM) 800 PM
DEFIANCE (R) - ID REQ'D 925 PM
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) (1245 PM 320 PM) 635 PM
BRIDE WARS (PG) (140 PM)
THE READER (R) - ID REQ'D (1255 345) 705 1005
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) (1215 110 235 350 455) 640 740 900 1000
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13) (1225 130 330 430) 630 730 930 1030
PAUL BLART MALL COP (PG) (1200 220 445) 710 935

FOX STADIUM 16
22875 Crawford Plz, Asburn, VA 703-957-1035
Adv. Tix on Sale TYLER PERRY'S: MADEA GOES TO JAIL
Adv. Tix on Sale FRIDAY THE 13TH
CORALINE (PG) (215 445) 715 945
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) (100 330) 600 820
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13) (115 415) 730 1025
RW & DA: PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) (200 430) 700 920
PUSH (PG-13) (130 410) 710 950
RW & DA: TAKEN (PG-13) (145 400) 630 845
NEW IN TOWN (PG-13) (110 340) 640 900
THE UNINVITED (PG-13) (230 520) 750 1015
TAKEN (PG-13) (1245 300 530) 745 1000
INKHEART (PG) (120 PM 350 PM) 650 PM
UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (240 540) 800 1020
PAUL BLART MALL COP (PG) (1230 250) 610 830
BRIDE WARS (PG) (1240 310) 615 840
REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) - ID REQ'D 930 PM
GRAN TORINO (R) - ID REQ'D (140 420) 720 1010
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) - ID REQ'D (150 450) 740 1030
HOTEL FOR DOGS - DP (PG) (1250 PM 320 PM) 620 PM
CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON - DP (PG-13) 850 PM

FAIRFAX TOWNE CENTER 10
4110 W Ox Road 800-FANDANGO 670#
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13) (100 400) 720 1015
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU - DP (PG-13) (150 450) 750 1035
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) (110 210 340 430) 700 730 920 950
PUSH (PG-13) (140 420) 745 1030
TAKEN (PG-13) (440) 710 740 940 1025
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) (130 PM 415 PM) 650 PM
BRIDE WARS (PG) (220 PM)
LAST CHANCE HARVEY (PG-13) 735 PM 1010 PM
THE WRESTLER (R) - ID REQ'D (200 445) 725 1000
DOUBT (PG-13) 1020 PM
TWILIGHT (PG-13) (105 PM 405 PM)

MANASSAS STADIUM 14
11380 Bulloch Drive 800-FANDANGO 490#
Adv. Tix on Sale TYLER PERRY'S: MADEA GOES TO JAIL
Adv. Tix on Sale FRIDAY THE 13TH
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) (1200 100 215 315 430 530) 645 745 915 1015
CORALINE - 3D (PG) ★ (115 415) 700 930
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13) (130 445) 735 1035
FRIDAY THE 13TH - MIDNITE (R) - ID REQ'D 1200 AM
PUSH (PG-13) (1230 345) 715 1000
NEW IN TOWN (PG-13) (220 500) 750 1025
THE UNINVITED (PG-13) (1250 325 550) 830 1050
TAKEN (PG-13) (1245 145 300 400 515) 615 800 900 1045
INKHEART (PG) (1205 PM)
UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D (150 440) 710 945
PAUL BLART MALL COP (PG) (1215 245 545) 815 1040
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) (200 PM 425 PM) 650 PM
BRIDE WARS (PG) (1210 PM)
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG-13) 925 PM
GRAN TORINO (R) - ID REQ'D (230 PM) 600 PM 850 PM
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) - ID REQ'D (1225 330) 630 940

Times For 2/12 Bargain Matinees In ( ) OC= Open Captioned RW=RWC Available DA= Descriptive Audio Available DP= Digital Projection * Pass/Discount Ticket Restrictions Apply © 2009 www.REGmovies.com

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–The New York Times

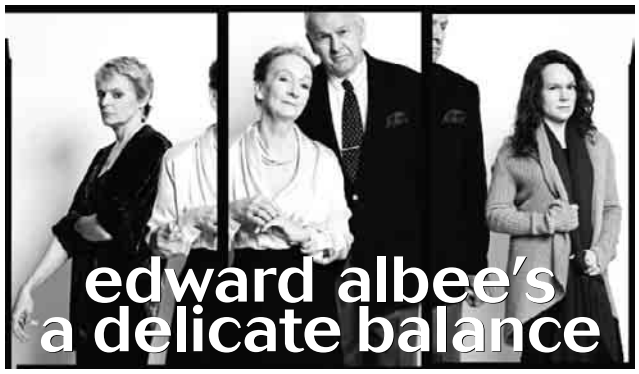

Photo illustration by J. Tom Hnatow; original photos by Scott Suchman

directed by Pam MacKinnon
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Metro CRYSTAL CITY

arena stage
molly smith
artistic director

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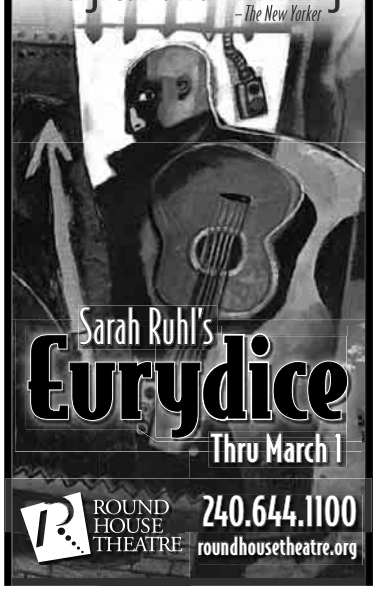

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express movie showtimes

MARYLAND

LANDMARK'S BETHESDA ROW
7235 Woodmont Ave • (301) 652-7273
www.landmarktheatres.com
BARGAIN MATINEES BEFORE 6PM

REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R)
1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
THE READER (R)
1:00, 3:45, 6:45, 9:35
WALTZ WITH BASHIR (R)
1:15, 3:25, 5:45, 8:00, 9:55
DOUBT (PG-13)
1:05PM
GRAN TORINO (R)
1:45, 4:20, 7:15, 10:00
MILK (R)
1:10, 4:00, 7:05, 10:05
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R)
1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10
FROST/NIXON (R)
3:30, 6:30, 9:15
THE WRESTLER (R)
1:35, 4:10, 7:20, 10:15

WeekendPass
Every Thursday in Express.
X366o 1x.75

VIRGINIA

CINEMA ARTS THEATRE
9650 Main St., Fairfax 703-978-6991
www.cinemaartstheatre.com

THE WRESTLER (R)
9:55, 12:15, 2:45, 5:10, 8:00, 10:15
DEFIANCE (R)
10:10, 1:15, 4:15, 7:20, 9:50
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R)
9:45, 12:10, 2:35, 5:05, 7:30, 9:45
THE READER (R)
9:50, 12:20, 2:50, 5:15, 7:50, 10:10
DOUBT (PG-13)
10:00, 12:05, 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20
FROST/NIXON (R)
9:40, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:05

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www.landmarktheatres.com
BARGAIN MATINEES BEFORE 6PM

(!) SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT/
NO PASSES / NO DISCOUNT CARDS

DOUBT (PG-13)
12:30 PM
CHE (R)
(!) 1:00, 7:00
THE WRESTLER (R)
1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:05
2008 NOMINATED SHORT FILMS - ANIMATED (NR)
3:10, 7:45
2008 NOMINATED SHORT FILMS - LIVE ACTION (NR)
12:50, 5:20
WENDY & LUCY (R)
10:00 PM
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R)
1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:00
REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R)
3:40, 9:40
THE SECRET OF THE GRAIN (NR)
12:30, 6:30
THE READER (R)
12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45
WALTZ WITH BASHIR (R)
2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 9:55
MILK (R)
1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 9:50

AMC Experience the Difference

Advanced Ticketing at MovieWatcher.com

A.M.Cinema - All seats $4, $5, or $6, Digital 3D $7 or $8, IMAX $9, before noon on Fri., Sat., Sun., & holiday periods - denoted by ( )
AMC Select - Special films for select tastes.

AMC HOFFMAN CENTER 22
Eisenhower Ave and Telegraph Road in Alexandria
703-998-4AMC

DIGITAL 3D
MY BLOODY VALENTINE 3D (R) 1:55, 4:25, 6:55, 9:20, 11:45

SPECIAL MIDNIGHT SHOW
CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC (PG) 12:01 AM
FRIDAY THE 13TH (2009) (R) 12:01 AM

DIGITAL PRESENTATION
BRIDE WARS (PG) 1:35, 4:00, 6:25, 9:05
CORALINE (PG) ✓ 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:35 *3D NOT AVAILABLE FOR THESE SHOWTIMES*
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG13) ✓ 1:20, 3:30, 4:30, 6:40, 7:40, 9:55
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) ✓ 2:00, 4:35, 7:25, 10:00
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) CC 1:25, 4:05, 6:45, 9:10, 12:01
PUSH (PG13) ✓ 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 10:15
NEW IN TOWN (PG) 2:35, 4:55, 7:20, 9:50
TAKEN (PG13) 2:45, 5:05, 7:30, 10:05
THE UNINVITED (PG13) 2:05, 4:45, 7:35, 9:50
INKHEART (PG) 1:10, 4:00
UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS (R) 2:50, 5:20, 7:45, 10:10
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) 1:00, 3:35, 6:10
NOTORIOUS (R) 6:50, 9:45
PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:10
NOT EASILY BROKEN (PG13) 7:15, 9:40
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG13) 1:05, 4:50, 8:30

AMC SELECT
MILK (R) 3:05
REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) 9:00 PM
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) 1:15, 4:10, 7:05, 10:00
THE WRESTLER (R) 2:20, 5:10, 7:55, 10:45
DEFIANCE (R) 6:15, 9:15
LAST CHANCE HARVEY (PG13) 2:10, 4:40
GRAN TORINO (R) 1:45, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20
THE READER (R) 3:40, 6:35, 9:30

AMC COLUMBIA MALL 14
10300 Patuxent Parkway
1 (888) AMC-4FUN

DIGITAL 3D
CORALINE 3D (PG) ✓ 1:40, 4:10, 6:45, 9:30

DIGITAL PRESENTATION
PUSH (PG13) ✓ 2:30, 5:10, 8:00, 10:35
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG13) ✓ 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) ✓ 2:15, 4:50, 7:45, 10:25
NEW IN TOWN (PG) 12:50, 3:10, 5:45, 8:10, 10:45
TAKEN (PG13) 1:10, 3:30, 5:55, 8:20, 10:50
THE UNINVITED (PG13) 1:20, 3:40, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30
INKHEART (PG) 1:35, 4:05
UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS (R) 12:45, 3:05, 5:30, 7:50, 10:10
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) 1:50, 4:25, 7:10, 9:40
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) CC 1:50, 4:25, 7:10, 9:40
NOTORIOUS (R) 9:15 PM
PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) 12:55, 3:20, 5:40, 8:10, 10:45
BRIDE WARS (PG) 2:00, 4:35, 6:50

AMC SELECT
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) 1:25, 4:15, 7:40, 10:40
DEFIANCE (R) 7:15, 10:15
GRAN TORINO (R) 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 10:05

LOEWS GEORGETOWN 14
3111 K Street, N.W.
202-342-6441

DIGITAL 3D
CORALINE 3D (PG) ✓ 2:30, 5:00, 7:35, 10:05
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG13) ✓ 1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 10:05
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) ✓ 1:00, 3:20, 5:45, 8:10, 10:30
PUSH (PG13) ✓ 1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
NEW IN TOWN (PG) 1:00, 3:15, 5:35, 7:55, 10:20
TAKEN (PG13) 2:35, 4:55, 7:25, 9:50
TAKEN (PG13) CC 2:35, 4:55, 7:25, 9:50
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG13) 1:05, 4:45, 8:30

AMC SELECT
FROST/NIXON (R) 2:20, 7:40
REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) 4:25, 7:20, 10:15
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) 1:40, 4:35, 7:30, 10:20
THE WRESTLER (R) 2:25, 5:05, 7:50, 10:30
DEFIANCE (R) 1:05, 4:05, 10:10
LAST CHANCE HARVEY (PG13) 5:10, 10:30
GRAN TORINO (R) 1:15, 4:05, 6:50, 9:40
THE READER (R) 1:55, 4:50, 7:45, 10:25
DOUBT (PG13) 1:45

AMC POTOMAC MILLS 18
2700 Potomac Mills Circle, Ste 886
703-998-4262

DIGITAL 3D
CORALINE 3D (PG) ✓ 1:45, 4:25, 7:00, 9:35

SPECIAL MIDNIGHT SHOW
CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC (PG) ✓ 12:01 AM
FRIDAY THE 13TH (2009) (R) ✓ 12:01 AM
THE INTERNATIONAL (R) ✓ 12:01 AM

DIGITAL PRESENTATION
PUSH (PG13) ✓ 1:40, 4:30, 7:25, 10:20
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG13) ✓ 1:00, 3:05, 4:05, 6:15, 7:15, 9:25, 10:25
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) ✓ 1:30, 2:30, 4:00, 5:00, 6:30, 7:30, 9:00, 10:00
NEW IN TOWN (PG) 2:35, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05
TAKEN (PG13) CC 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15
THE UNINVITED (PG13) 12:55, 3:15, 5:40, 7:55, 10:10
INKHEART (PG) 2:00, 4:35, 7:10
UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS (R) 12:50, 3:10, 5:35, 8:05, 10:25
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) 1:35, 4:10, 6:40
MY BLOODY VALENTINE (R) 9:20 PM *3D NOT AVAILABLE FOR THESE SHOWTIMES*
NOTORIOUS (R) 9:45 PM
PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) 2:40, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05
BRIDE WARS (PG) 2:05, 4:20, 6:55
THE UNBORN (PG13) 9:40 PM
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG13) 9:15 PM

AMC SELECT
REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) 1:05, 3:55, 6:50
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) 1:20, 4:15, 7:05, 9:50
DEFIANCE (R) 3:30, 6:45, 9:55
GRAN TORINO (R) 1:50, 4:40, 7:20, 10:10

AMC COURTHOUSE PLAZA 8
Courthouse and Birch Rd.
703-998-4AMC

CORALINE (PG) ✓ 2:20, 4:40, 7:00 *3D NOT AVAILABLE FOR THESE SHOWTIMES*
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG13) ✓ 1:40, 4:30, 7:30
PUSH (PG13) ✓ 2:50, 5:20, 8:00
THE UNINVITED (PG13) 1:50, 3:50, 5:50, 8:10
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG13) 3:40

AMC SELECT
MILK (R) 2:10, 7:40
FROST/NIXON (R) 5:00
THE WRESTLER (R) 2:25, 4:50, 7:20
DEFIANCE (R) 7:10
THE READER (R) 2:30, 5:10, 7:50

MAGIC JOHNSON CAPITAL CENTRE 12
800 Shopper's Way, Largo
301-324-4220

CORALINE (PG) 1:20, 4:20, 7:25, 10:05 *3D NOT AVAILABLE FOR THESE SHOWTIMES*
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG13) 12:55, 3:55, 6:55, 9:55
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) 12:05, 2:15, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
PUSH (PG13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
TAKEN (PG13) 12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 7:55, 10:20
THE UNINVITED (PG13) 12:05, 2:15, 4:45, 7:05, 9:45
UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS (R) 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
MY BLOODY VALENTINE (R) 12:05, 5:00, 10:00 *3D NOT AVAILABLE FOR THESE SHOWTIMES*
NOTORIOUS (R) 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10
PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15
NOT EASILY BROKEN (PG13) 1:25, 4:25, 7:20, 9:50
THE UNBORN (PG13) 2:30, 7:30

LOEWS SHIRLINGTON 7
2772 South Randolph
703-671-0910 801

AMC SELECT
MILK (R) 1:40, 7:20
REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) 1:55, 4:50, 7:30
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) 12:15, 2:55, 5:35, 8:20
THE WRESTLER (R) 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15
THE READER (R) 1:45, 4:35, 7:15
DOUBT (PG13) 2:05, 4:40, 7:05
WENDY AND LUCY (R) ✓ 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:10
RACHEL GETTING MARRIED (R) 4:25

LOEWS UPTOWN 1
3426 Connecticut Avenue N.W.
1-800-FANDANGO #713

AMC SELECT
FROST/NIXON (R) 2:40, 5:30, 8:15

AMC TYSONS CORNER 16
7850 Tysons Corner Center
703-998-4262

DIGITAL 3D
CORALINE 3D (PG) ✓ 12:45, 3:10, 5:30, 8:05, 10:30
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG13) ✓ 1:10, 4:15, 7:20, 10:15
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) ✓ 12:35, 2:50, 5:05, 7:25, 9:40
PUSH (PG13) ✓ 12:25, 3:00, 5:40, 8:15, 10:50
NEW IN TOWN (PG) 12:30, 3:05, 5:25, 7:45, 10:05
TAKEN (PG13) 12:40, 2:55, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00
THE UNINVITED (PG13) 1:15, 3:40, 5:55, 8:30, 10:45
INKHEART (PG) 2:45, 7:50
UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS (R) 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:15, 9:35
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) 12:55, 3:20, 5:45, 8:10, 10:35
MY BLOODY VALENTINE (R) 12:20, 5:15, 10:40 *3D NOT AVAILABLE FOR THESE SHOWTIMES*
PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) 12:50, 3:15, 5:35, 7:55, 10:10
BRIDE WARS (PG) 1:00, 3:25, 5:50, 8:00, 10:20
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG13) 3:30, 7:00, 10:30

AMC SELECT
REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) 1:45, 7:40
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55
DEFIANCE (R) 4:30, 10:25
GRAN TORINO (R) 1:20, 4:05, 7:05, 9:45

AMC MAZZA GALLERIE
Jenifer and Wisconsin
202-537-9553

CORALINE (PG) 1:30, 4:15, 7:00 *3D NOT AVAILABLE FOR THESE SHOWTIMES*
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:15
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) 2:10, 4:45, 7:30
TAKEN (PG13) 2:45, 5:20, 8:00
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) 2:30, 5:10, 7:50
PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) 1:45, 4:00

AMC SELECT
GRAN TORINO (R) 1:50, 4:05, 6:55

LOEWS RIO CINEMAS 18
9811 Washingtonian Boulevard
301-948-0906

DIGITAL 3D
CORALINE 3D (PG) ✓ 1:55, 4:25, 6:55, 9:20
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG13) ✓ 1:15, 2:15, 4:10, 5:10, 7:15, 8:25, 10:15
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) ✓ 2:20, 4:45, 7:20, 9:40
THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) CC ✓ 1:20, 3:35, 5:50, 8:10, 10:35
PUSH (PG13) ✓ 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:55
NEW IN TOWN (PG) 1:45, 4:20, 6:50, 9:15
TAKEN (PG13) 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:25
THE UNINVITED (PG13) 1:10, 3:20, 5:35, 7:45, 10:00
INKHEART (PG) 1:35
UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS (R) 1:40, 3:55, 6:10, 8:35, 10:55
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) 1:05, 3:30, 5:55, 8:20, 10:45
PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30
BRIDE WARS (PG) 1:10, 5:40, 10:25
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG13) 1:00, 7:40

AMC SELECT
REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) 4:05, 7:00, 9:45
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) 2:05, 4:50, 7:35, 10:20
DEFIANCE (R) 4:35
LAST CHANCE HARVEY (PG13) 3:20, 8:05
GRAN TORINO (R) 1:25, 4:15, 7:05, 9:50
THE READER (R) 1:05, 3:50, 6:45, 9:30

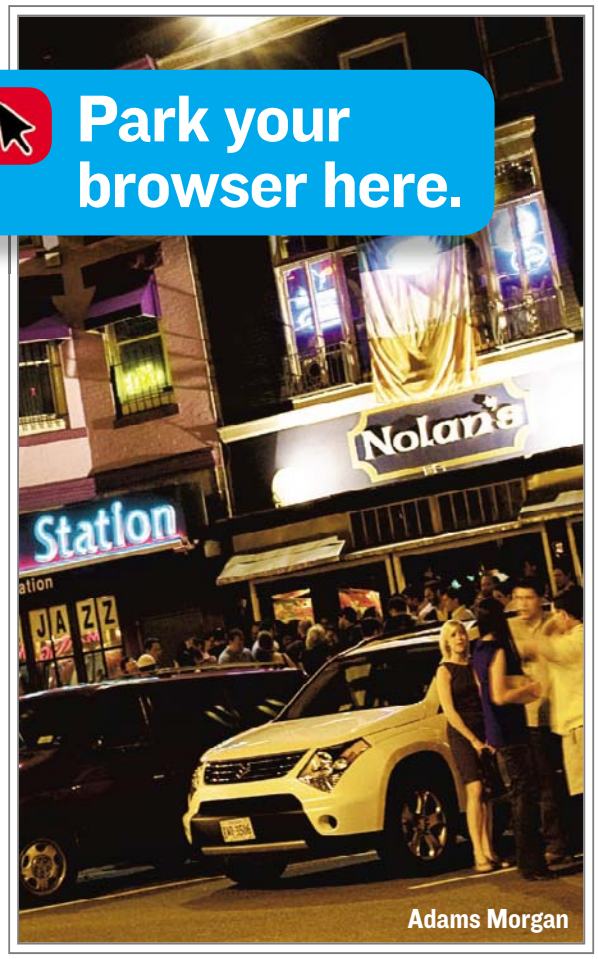
LOEWS WHITE FLINT 5
North Bethesda
1-800-FANDANGO #741

HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG13) 1:55, 4:45, 7:35
PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) 2:20, 4:30, 7:10

AMC SELECT
FROST/NIXON (R) 2:10, 4:50, 7:30
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) 1:50, 4:35, 7:25
GRAN TORINO (R) 2:00, 4:45, 7:35

✓-SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT No passes or discount coupons CC - Closed Captioning · DV - Descriptive Video Service

Park your browser here.



Concerts, movies, events, restaurants and more.

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expressnightout.com

Look for site highlights in today's Express.

XX138A 2x7

Valentine's Day Special

Dinner for Two

Enjoy a wonderful dinner buffet and dance the night away to Big Tony and the Trouble Funk Band playing smooth jazz and funk.

Buffet will be served from 7pm–9pm includes
Seafood Scampi, Maryland Crab Cakes, Broiled Salmon, Steak Diane, Chicken Dijonnaise and Spiced Shrimp, Carving Station with a Steamship Round of Beef and Honey Cured Ham and Dessert Station with French Pastries, Assorted Cheesecakes and more.

$65.00 per couple including tax and service charge

Cash Bar Available
Special Room Rates available with advance booking
*Reservations and prepayment required

Holiday Inn Holiday Inn Eisenhower Metro Center
2460 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314
Please call...703-960-3400 x 1120 for more information and reservations

Peachez Cafe and Lounge
Two Performances @ 7pm & 10:30pm

Tickets $40

PRESENTS
"A Valentine's Weekend Affair"
For Lovers & Friends
Friday February 13, 2009
www.peachezcafeandlounge.com
Call 301-780-3467 for Reservations

Featuring MAYSA

Mike Phillips
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DOMASO
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Tantalize your palate with the ultimate aphrodisiacs this

Valentine's Day

Chef Massimo De Francesca and Pastry Chef Kevin Boxx feature Chocolate & Truffles Saturday, February 14th.

Photo by Darki Zagar

Duo Presentation of 3 course menus $55 prix fixe; $90 with wine pairings

A playful intermingling of white or dark chocolate ingredients partnered with fresh truffle mushrooms.

View Valentine's Menu at Restaurant Week Menus at www.domasotrattoria.com or view through OpenTable.

1121 N. 19th Street, Arlington, VA 22209 • 703.351.1211

WeekendPass | Entertainment

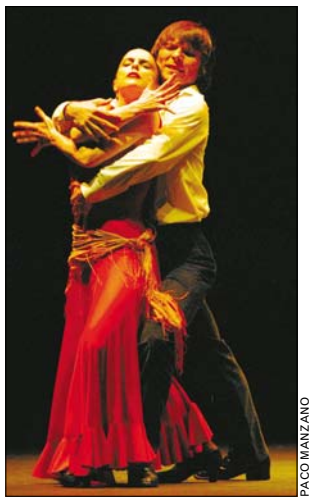
TheScene

Continued from E16

through March 22. 4th Street & Constitution Avenue NW; 202-737-4215, nga.gov.

National Gallery of Art, West Building: "Designing the Lincoln Memorial: Daniel Chester French & Henry Bacon," installation featuring the 6-foot-high plaster final model of the statue, through Feb. 2010. "Pride of Place: Dutch Cityscapes of the Golden Age," a showcase of paintings, books and atlases highlighting the 17th-century Dutch genre, through May 3. "Oceans, Rivers and Skies: Ansel Adams, Robert Adams and Alfred Stieglitz," 21 works by the landscape photographers, through March 15. "Looking In: Robert Frank's 'The Americans,'" through April 26. "Reading the Modern Photobook: Changing Perceptions," through April 26. Permanent exhibit, a collection of European and American paintings, sculpture and decorative arts from the 13th through the 19th centuries and an outdoor sculpture garden, 6th Street & Constitution Avenue NW; 202-737-4215, nga.gov.

STAGE | HOLD TIGHT



PACO MANZANO

MOVE CLOSE: Lisner Auditorium is en fuego this month as the best flamenco performers from Spain converge upon the stage in a riot of sobbing songs, fiery music, and the staccato of heels. This weekend, the Antonion Gades Company stages its burning version of "Carmen." ith Arcangel, Dorantes and

National Geographic: "Birds of North America," more than 90 illustrations from National Geographic's archives, through May 31. 1145 17th St. NW; 202-857-7588, nationalgeographic.com/museum.

National Museum of African Art: "Artists in Dialogue: António Ole and Aimé Mpane," a mixed-media installation serves as a conversation between the two artists, reception Fri., 6:30 p.m., through Aug. 2. 950 Independence Ave., SW; 202-633-4600, africa.si.edu.

National Museum of American History: The newly light-filled space contains an array of ongoing exhibitions, including "The Star-Spangled Banner: The Flag That Inspired the National Anthem," "The American Presidency: A Glorious Burden," "Bon Appetit! Julia Child's Kitchen at the Smithsonian," the Declaration of Independence and many more, 14th Street & Constitution Avenue NW; 202-633-1000, americanhistory.si.edu.

National Museum of Crime & Punishment: Permanent exhibit, various displays on the history of crime, crime-fighting and punishment in the United States,

Continued on E20

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February Calendar of Events

Celebrating Romance on Valentines Day
Saturday, February 14th
Four Courses - Beautifully Romantic Fare - Champagne Toast
$35.95 per person - Reservations Suggested

Restaurant Week February 16-22
Select 3 Courses, Appetizer, Entrée And Dessert - Full Run Of Menu
Lunch $20.09 - Dinner $35.09 Includes Glass Of Wine

"Jazzed Up" Sunday Champagne Brunch
Featuring: The Talented Yvonne Johnson
Ranked As "Washington's Top 10 Brunches" - OpenTable.com
New Menu - Choice of Appetizers, Entrées and Desserts
Unlimited Champagne, Mimosas and Bellini's
11 AM-3 PM Reservations Suggested
$27.95 per person

Saturday Nights are Date Night*
Two Dine for $49 – Any Entrée - Choice of Appetizer Or Dessert

50% Off Burgers
Sunday Nights — Monday Lunch

Boutique Wine List
Explore - Wine Specials by the Glass and Bottle

Happy Hour $1.00 Appetizer Menu
You Asked for it - We brought it back!

*Not valid 2/14/09

21°M LOUNGE
The Return of the $5.00 Martini

Book On Line www.MStreetBarAndGrill.com or Thru www.OpenTable.com

The Shawarma Wars

Adams Morgan's Shawarma King sets out to prove who rules

FOOD FIGHTS | If U Street is Little Ethiopia and the Northern Virginia suburbs are Little Asia, then Adams Morgan is now Little Mideast.

Brief history: First, there was 18th Street's Amsterdam Falafel, wafting in intoxicated bar-hoppers with the smell of double-fried fries and bundles of breaded chickpeas.

Around the corner on Columbia Road, a former chef at Amsterdam opened up Old City Café, which offers a wider menu (breakfast all day!) plus the standby toppings to crown your falafel-filled pita.

Then back at 18th, the crew from Amsterdam opened up Shawarma Spot, padding the menu with shawarma sandwiches, rice side dishes and Mediterranean-themed salads.

But now Amsterdam Falafel and co. has a threat to its monopoly on Mideast treats in Adams Morgan. Enter Shawarma King.

Butros Qumseya and his family moved from Bethlehem to the United States seven years ago. He ran a small shawarma and falafel shop, Matam Alasdikaa (Friend's Restaurant), back in the West Bank city.

SUEMEDHA SOOD

FALAFEL FOR ALL: Adams Morgan's newest eatery offers American palates authentic falafel platters and other Mideast treats.

When he first arrived in America, Qumseya remembered, "I tried to eat falafel in places here, but it tastes totally different." He wanted something that represented his kind of falafel, and, yes, there are differences. Upon first bite, Qumseya's falafel is bright green from the abundance of parsley and other herbs.

He set up shop in an area with lots of foot traffic. Concerning the abundance of falafel joints, Qumseya acknowledges, "There are some places here and here, but it needs more. The American people like the food. It's fast food and low prices because of the economy," as he points to the large board listing chicken and beef shawarma sandwiches for $5.95 and falafel sandwiches for $4.95. Sandwiches can be wrapped in either a pita or white or wheat lavash and stuffed with any number of the 17 toppings.

According to Qumseya, the Bethlehem way to create a falafel sandwich includes shawarma salad (diced tomatoes and cucumbers with salt), pickled cucumbers, hot sauce and hummus. And to make Shawarma King as authentic as possible, Qumseya has his pickles flown in from Jerusalem, his shawarma machine imported from Greece and his spice blends hand-mixed by his brother, who buys them from the Jerusalem market Souk Alattarin.

> "I tried to eat falafel in places here, but it tastes totally different. ... There are some places here and here, but it needs more."

"I like to eat; I like to make food," he claims, and his enthusiasm is echoed by his wife and daughter behind the register and his relative behind the deep fryer. You'll feel equally at home in the newest of the shawarma joints.

STEFANIE GANS

➜ *Shawarma King, 1654 Columbia Road NW; 202-462-8355, shawarmakingdc.com. (Columbia Heights)*

dine&dash

OLDIE BUT GOODIE

Ol' Dupont Italian Kitchen

Comfort is many things — a cashmere sweater, a Netflix envelope, a bowl of pasta and cream. When you can't get into any of the new, posh Italian restaurants forging into the city, try an oldie. Since 1986, Dupont Italian Kitchen has been filling bowls with spaghetti, tortellini, fried eggplant and breaded chicken. But for a lactose overload, order the fettuccine Alfredo. Swimming in cream and Parmesan cheese, warm fettuccine noodles are the cure for the winter blues. And isn't so hard on the wallet for a mere $11.95; pack up half for lunch the next day and it's a real steal. STEFANIE GANS

➜ *Dupont Italian Kitchen, 1637 17th St. NW; 202-328-3222, duponti-taliankitchen.net . (Dupont Circle)*

WHO NEEDS 'EM?

Happy Hour Sweethearts

Don't have someone to buy you chocolates for this lovers' weekend? Never mind those fools. Take charge of your own sweets consumption at Equinox's Friday happy hours. Forget that ex with the Modern Chocolatini (Van Gogh espresso, house-made "chocolate seduction" and smoked Himalayan sea salt) or the Sahara Haze (cinnamon-infused Bulleit bourbon, Simo's five-spice concoction and Marrakech dried fig. Complimentary snacks will also lift your spirits. Culinary gifts from the kitchen include meatballs, risotto fritters, soup shooters or cookies. (SG)

COURTESY THREE LOCKHARTS PR

CHUG, CHUG, CHUG: Equinox promotes the tasty consumption of chocolate.

➜ *Equinox, 818 Connecticut Ave. NW; Fridays through March 20, 5-7 p.m.; 202-331-8118, equinoxrestaurant.com. (Farragut West/Farragut North)*

PRESIDENTIAL EATS

Mt. Vernon Celebrates No. 1

Now that you've had a short reprieve from the presidential hoopla, it's time to celebrate our nation's first decision-maker. Take part in Mount Vernon's birthday party for George Washington: wreath-laying ceremony, Revolutionary War re-enactment and hoecakes. Colonially dressed helpers will serve you a tasting of the president's favorite breakfast, a corn meal based pancake doused with honey and butter and cooked over an open fire.

If you need more food before gearing up for America's Smallest Hometown Parade, check out the Mount Vernon Inn (Colonial turkey "pye") or the Food Court (something called a "cheeseburger"). (SG)

➜ *Mount Vernon, Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon, Va.; Sat.-Mon., 9 a.m.-4 p.m., $15 adult, $7 child; 703-780-2000, mountvernon.org.*

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CONSTANTIN FILM DEVELOPMENT

Foreign Language Takes Center Stage

MISSED THE FILMS nominated for the 2008 best foreign language film Oscar? National Geographic Live has your back. Global Glimpses, this weekend's screenings of all five films, takes off the pressure to pretend you know what "The Baader Meinhof Complex" (Germany, Fri., 7 p.m.) is about — notorious '70s terrorists — or whether "The Class" (France, Sat., 5 p.m.) deserved the Palme d'Or at Cannes (depends on your tolerance for movies about teachers at a rough high school), or whether the hero of "Departures" (Japan, Sat., 8 p.m.) was happier as a cellist or an undertaker. Also screening are the much-buzzed-about "Waltz With Bashir" (Israel, Sun., 6:30 p.m.) and "Revanche" (Austria, Sun., 2 p.m.), about a couple who plan a bank robbery. There's a reception an hour before each evening screening. AMY CAVANAUGH

➜ *National Geographic, 1600 M St. NW; Fri.–Sun., $8/screening, $35/series; 202-857-7700, events.nationalgeographic.com. (Farragut North/McPherson Square)*

ASK BETSY
About Student Loans

This column, contributed by American Student Assistance®, a non-profit that provides student loan borrowers with the education and encouragement they need to successfully manage their debt, is published in *The Express* every month. You can "Ask Betsy" questions about applying for student loans, repaying your loans, or what to do if you're having trouble paying your loans back. E-mail your questions to ***askbetsydc@amsa.com.***

American Student Assistance

Self-Employed Parent

Dear Betsy,

My daughter will be attending school next year, and I am concerned about financial aid. My husband is self-employed, and I am concerned how that will affect her eligibility for scholarships and loans. Can you tell me?

Thank you,
Paula

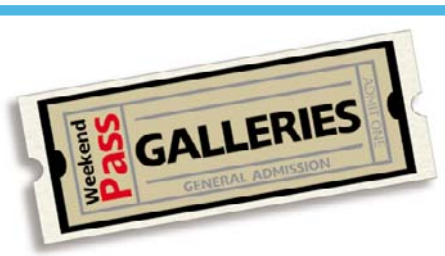
Dear Paula,

Your husband's self-employment should not affect your daughter's eligibility for financial aid. It may be a little more challenging to obtain the necessary tax information for the applications, as there will be no W-2 form to reference. Other than that, the process and results should be the same for your family as they would be for any other. You will need to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), available online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Just make sure that the income and taxes paid information you enter on the FAFSA matches the information submitted to the Internal Revenue Service for the same year.

I'm glad you wrote, Paula, as I receive many similar questions throughout the year. The bottom line is that everyone should fill out the FAFSA every year, since just about everyone is eligible for some type of federal financial aid—be it in the form of loans, grants, or Work-Study. Student loans are not income based, so unless the borrower has a prior outstanding default or has reached the aggregate loan limit, these loans should at least be available.

Regards,
Betsy

Have a question about student loans? E-mail me at askbetsydc@amsa.com



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TheScene

Continued from E18

575 7th St. NW; 202-393-1099.

National Museum of Health and Medicine: Permanent exhibits, displays about medicine, including the world's largest and most representative collection of microscopes, human bodies and skeletons, 6900 Georgia Ave. NW, Building 54; 202-782-2200, nlm.nih.gov/hmd/medtour/nmhm.html.

National Museum of the American Indian: "Fritz Scholder: Indian/Not Indian," a retrospective of the contemporary artist's paintings, bronze sculptures and lithographs, through Aug. 16. Displays about the history and culture of American Indians, 4th Street and Independence Avenue SW; 202-633-1000, nmai.si.edu.

National Museum of Natural History: "Orchids through Darwin's Eyes," the development and differences of orchids, through April 26. "Dig It! The Secrets of the Soil," through Jan. 2010. Ongoing and permanent displays, 10th Street & Constitution Avenue NW; 202-633-1000, mnh.si.edu.

National Portrait Gallery: "Tokens of Affection and Regard: Photographic Jewelry and Its Makers," through June 21. "One Life: The Mask of Lincoln," through July 5. "Portraiture Now: Feature Photography," through Sept. 27. "Presidents in Waiting," through Jan. 3, 2010. 8th & F streets NW; 202-633-1000, npg.si.edu.

Newseum: A popular museum of news tracing the history of journalism, with interactive exhibitions, 15 theaters and

Continued on E22

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TheScene

Continued from E20

two broadcast studios. 555 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 888-639-7386, newseum.org.

Project 4 Gallery: "Why on Earth?," an exhibition of paintings and drawings featuring historical imagery and stories recontextualized into macabre creations by Anthony Pontius. 1353 U St. NW; 202-232-4340, project4gallery.com.

Pyramid Atlantic Arts Gallery: "Book-Ends: The Book as Art," this show, in conjunction with Target Gallery, focuses on the artistic value of books, through April 18, Pyramid Atlantic Arts Center, 8230 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring; 301-608-9101.

Renwick Gallery: American crafts and decorative arts, ongoing. 17th Street & Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 202-633-1000, americanart.si.edu/renwick/index.cfm.

S. Dillon Ripley Center: "Road to Freedom," photographs of the civil rights movement, through March 9. 1100 Jefferson Drive SW; 202-633-1000, si.edu/ripley.

Smithsonian American Art Museum: "Accommodating Nature: The Photographs of Frank Gohlke," photographs document how people interact with and change their environments, through March 3. "Graphic Masters I: Highlights from the Smithsonian American Art Museum," works from the museum's collection, through May 25. "The Scurlock Studio and Black Washington: Picturing the Promise," a family of photographers' documentation of black D.C., through Nov. 15. 8th & F streets NW; 202-633-1000, americanart.si.edu.

Studio Gallery: "Travels," Stan Wenocur's collection of abstract, mixed-media paintings explore landscape and water. "Rough Edges," acrylic paintings from Bud Hensge. "Through a Pinhole," Scott Speck's handmade pinhole cameras explore texture, perspective and dimen-

SOUND | ... AND THE CLOTHES COME WITH IT

COURTESY OF WOLF TRAP

SULTAN OF THE STAGE: Del McCoury is a master of bluegrass. And country. And gospel. The North Carolina-born guitar master rules any musical form he puts his fleet fingers to. But McCoury, coming to the Birchmere with his band on Friday, is at home ripping through elemental Americana.

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TheScene

sionality, all through Feb. 28, 2108 R St. NW; 202-232-8734, studiogallerydc.com.

Target Gallery: "Bookends: the Book as Art," a juried exhibition of 56 pieces celebrating the physical beauty of books, through Feb. 22. 105 N. Union St., Alexandria, 703-838-4565, torpedofactory.org.

Textile Museum: "Timbuktu to Tibet: Rugs and Textiles of the Hajji Babas" rugs and textiles from diverse cultures, through March 8. 2320 S St. NW; 202-667-0441, textilemuseum.org.

Touchstone Gallery: "Double Vision II," art from each of the 30 gallery members and one friend for a total of 60 pieces, through March 28. "Digital Shakti: A Mixed Media Event," out-of-body experiences conceptualized and painted by Anil CS Rao, reception Fri., 6-8:30 p.m., through March 7. 406 7th St. NW; 202-347-2787, touchstonegallery.com.

U.S. Botanic Garden: "African-American Gardens: Places of the Spirit," a photographic exhibition of private landscapes. Permanent exhibitions of more than 4,000 plants and a tropical rain forest. 100 Maryland Ave. SW; 202-225-8333, usbg.org.

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum: "A Dangerous Lie: Protocols of the Elders of Zion," "State of Deception: The Power of Nazi Propaganda," "Remember the Children: Daniel's Story," other exhibitions of artifacts, photographs and oral histories. 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place (15th Street) SW; 202-488-0400, ushmm.org.

Washington Gallery of Photography: "Irresistible," mixed-media exhibition exploring human desire, reception Fri., 6-9 p.m., through March 9. "Life Lines II," ink and watercolor paintings from Jacqueline Saunders, through March 9. 4850 Rugby Ave., Bethesda; 301-654-1998, wsp-photo.com.

Washington Printmakers Gallery: "Alpine Views," snow-swept prints from Deron DeCesare, through Feb. 22. 1732 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-332-7757, washingtonprintmakers.com.

Washington Square: Washington Sculptors Group presents "Sculpture Now 2009," through May 2. Washington Square, 1050 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-686-8696, washingtonsculptors.org.

SOUND | DANCE TIME

JORGE BANALES

SATURDAY NIGHT: A breath of booty-shaking, sweat-dripping, old-school fresh air amid a sea of jagged pop and aggressive hardcore, the Ambitions bring something to the D.C. scene it hasn't been notorious for — fun. This soulful garage band with rock chops appears at the Black Cat's Valentine's Day bash.

Stage

The Accident: An automobile collision rips open the secret lives of two couples in the English premiere of a hit Israeli drama, through March 8, $30, Theater J, 1529 16th St. NW; 202-518-9400, washingtondcjcc.org.

A Delicate Balance: Edward Albee's Pulitzer Prize-winning play explores the complicated underside of American suburbia familial relations, all in the hands of director Pam MacKinnon, opens Fri., through March 15, $25-66, Arena Stage, 1800 S. Bell St.; 202-488-3300, arena

Continued on E25

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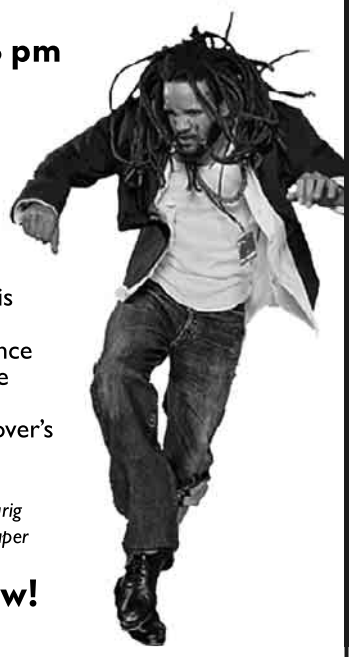

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THU 2.19 Theater Thursday Costume Design
FRI 2.20 Fit Friday
SAT 2.21 Swimsuit Saturday
SAT 2.21 Sexy Saturday Night Lingerie
SUN 2.22 Drag Brunch
MON 2.23 Metro Monday
TUE 2.24 T-Shirt Tuesday
WED 2.25 Work Wear Wednesday
THU 2.26 Denim Night
FRI 2.27 Foxy Friday Animal Prints
SAT 2.28 Cocktail Dress
SAT 2.28 Closing Night Gown Gala

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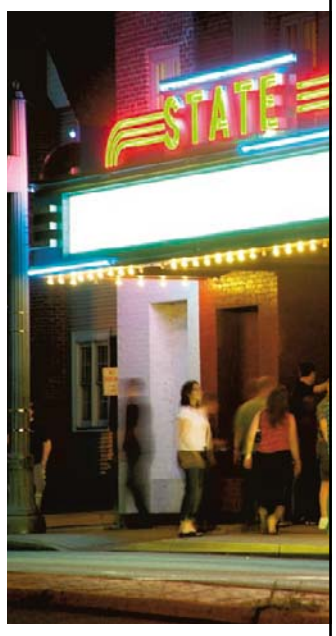

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STAGE | OF DIVAS AND DAMES

STAN BAROUH

CURTAIN UP: We're usually far too professional (read: snobbish) to spotlight student productions, but "Anton in Show Business" at the University of Maryland's Clarice Smith Center is worth a look. The UMd. Department of Theatre puts on Jane Martin's absurd backstage comedy of d-r-a-m-a.

TheScene

Continued from E23

stage.org.

Anton in Show Business: Jane Martin's satirical look into the strange world of theater, through Feb. 21., $25. Clarice Smith Center, University Boulevard & Stadium Drive, College Park., 301-405-2787, claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

The Armadillo's Song: Classika Theatre's latest play for children, through March 28, $12. Classika Theatre, 4041 Campbell Ave., Arlington; 703-824-6200, classika.org.

THIS WEEKEND ONLY Avenue Q: Three-time Tony Award-winning puppet-driven comedic musical, through Sun. $45-$75. Warner Theatre, 513 13th St., NW; 800-551-7328, warnertheatre.com.

The Best Judge, the King: Directed by Macarena Baeza, a Spanish tragicomedy mixes love with social realism, through Feb. 22., $20-$36, Gala Theatre, 3333 14th St. NW; 202-234-7174, galatheatre.org.

THIS WEEKEND ONLY Carmen: The Antonio Gades Company performs its internationally acclaimed flamenco version of the tragedy, Sat. & Sun., 8 p.m., $35-$55. GWU Lisner Auditorium, 730 21st St. NW; 202-994-6800, lisner.org.

LAST CHANCE Cherry Orchard: Chekhov's classic performed by the Washington Shakespeare Company, through Sun., $25-$35, Clark Street Playhouse, 601 S. Clark St., Arlington; 800-494-8497, washingtonshakespeare.org.

The Children of Latinia: In this one-man play, Quique Aviles and B. Stanley explore the difficulties of living with multiple Latino roots in an American society, through Feb. 28, $15, DC Arts Center, 202-462-7833, dcartscenter.org.

Cool Papa's Party: The musical odyssey of Sammy Davis Jr., Frank Sinatra and the title character, the last great American hipster, through March 15. MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. Alexandria; 800-494-8497, metrostage.org.

THIS WEEKEND ONLY Dancevert: Sensuality, strength and spirituality are conveyed through Susana Weingarten and Tom Everet's program, Fri., 8 p.m. & Sun., 4 p.m.; $8-$22. Atlas Performing Arts Center, 3225 8th St. NE; 202-269-1600, danceplace.org.

Dante: Journey through the afterlife alongside the epic poem's creator in Paata Tsikurishvili's reimagining of the original, through March 22, $20-$40. Rosslyn Spectrum Theatre, 4041 Campbell Ave. Arlington; 703-824-8061, synetic theater.org.

The Dog in the Manger: The course of forbidden love runs seductive, conniving and rough in Lope de Vega's play, produced by Shakespeare Theatre Company, through March 29. $35.50-$84.75. Lansburgh Theatre, 450 7th St. NW; 202-547-1122, shakespearetheatre.org.

Eurydice: Sarah Ruhl retells the myth from the perspective of the woman left behind, through March 1, $50-$55, Round House Theatre, 4545 East West Highway, Bethesda; 240-644-1100, roundhousetheatre.org.

Continued on E26

Zilly Rosen with her original Obama cupcake installation, 2008, Buffalo, NY. Photo by Shasti O'Leary Soudant and Zilly Rosen

February

Smithsonian American Art Museum

PRESIDENTIAL FAMILY FUN DAY

Saturday February 14, 11:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. free

Join American Art and the Portrait Gallery for fife-and-drum music, period dance, dramatic storytelling and Victorian valentines. Artist and baker Zilly Rosen will create portraits of presidents Obama and Lincoln entirely of cupcakes; sample the art after 5 p.m.

TAKE 5!

Thursday, February 19, 5-8 p.m. free

Relax with live jazz every third Thursday of the month in the beautiful Kogod Courtyard. Night and Day Quintet performs a mix of swing, soul, and blues.

ARTrageous!

Thursday, February 26, 7:30-11 p.m.

The American Art Museum's annual gala with live music, dancing, a buffet dinner reception and a chance to meet artists from across the country. Proceeds support the museum's educational programs. Call (202) 633-4550 or e-mail SAAMDevelopment@si.edu for tickets. $125, $100 for American Art Members.

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OPERA | SING OUT THE PAIN

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NO HAPPY ENDING: "Tosca" remains one of opera's most enduring tragedies. Puccini's tale of a headstrong singer's downward spiral, tugged along by her heart and men's jealousy, comes to GMU's Center for the Arts in a Virginia Opera product faithful to the hopelessly romantic soul of the story.

TheScene

Continued from E25

LAST CHANCE Funeral Potatoes: The balance between piety and sexuality is explored through one woman's struggle in the middle of a Mormon funeral, through Sat., Mead Theatre Lab at Flashpoint, 916 G St. NW; 202-315-1305, flashpointdc.org.

The Heavens Are Hung in Black: The five months between the death of Lincoln's son and the issue of the Emancipation Proclamation are examined in this compelling portrait of Lincoln, through March 8. $16-$52. Ford's Theatre, 511 10th St. NW; 800-899-2367, fords.org.

Heart of a Dog: Through the magic of science, a stray dog becomes a man and comedic chaos ensues in this play presented by Spooky Action Theatre, through March 8. $15. Black Box Theatre, Philadelphia & Chicago Avenues, Takoma Park; 240-567-1368, spookyaction.org.

Hell Meets Henry Halfway: Polish novelist Witold Gombrowicz's mystery "Possessed" gets transformed by Pig Iron Theatre Company into a disturbing black comedic celebration of nihilism, through March 1. $26-$60. Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, 641 D St. NW; 202-393-3939, woollymammoth.net.

THIS WEEKEND ONLY Highland Fling: The Washington Ballet's program features August Bournoville's La "Sylphide" and Lila York's "Celts," through Sun., $20-$120. Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; 202-467-4600, kennedy-center.org.

THIS WEEKEND ONLY Hunchback: The Shakespeare Theatre Company stages a puppet-driven, youth-centered reimagining of Victor Hugo's classic, through Sun. $23-$28. Sidney Harman Hall, 610 F St. NW; 202-547-1122, shakespearetheatre.org.

LAST CHANCE I Love a Piano: Seven decades of Irving Berlin's songs and American history come to the stage in an energetic dance performance, through Sun., $25-$74. Arena Stage, 1101 6th St. SW; 202-554-9066, arenastage.org.

Is He Dead?: A rediscovered play by Mark Twain features a death-faking, cross-dressing artist with profit on the mind, through March 8. $26-$49. Olney Theatre, 2001 Olney-Sandy Spring Road, Olney; 301-924-3400, olneytheatre.org.

Kick-Butt Women: A Broad satiric reimagining of "Lady Godiva" by Teatro de la Luna, through March 7. $20-$30. Gunston Arts Center, 2700 S. Lang St. Arlington; 703-548-3092, teatrodelaluna.org.

The Little Dog Laughed: Holly Twyford stars in the story of an agent steering her client through Hollywood's shark tank, through March 8, $44-$71. Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington; 703-820-9771, signature-theatre.org.

Les Miserables: The crowd-pleasing musical in a spare production by Eric Schaeffer, through Feb. 22, $65-$87. Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington; 703-820-9771, signature-theatre.org.

The Marriage of Figaro: The Constellation Theatre Company presents Beaumarchais' classic farce, through Feb. 22, Source, 1835 14th St. NW; 202-315-1305.

THIS WEEKEND ONLY My Comic Val-

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TheScene

entine: A tongue-in-cheek revisiting of '50s cultural mores brings to life stories in romance comic books, through Sun., $15. The Shop at Fort Fringe, 610 L St. NW; 443-803-1163, banishedproductions.org.

Roundheads & Peakheads: Catalyst Theatre stages Bertolt Brecht 1930s play about poverty, class and race warfare, through March 15. $10. Atlas Performing Arts Center, 1333 H St. NE; 202-399-7993, catalysttheater.org.

The Titanic Show: The last days of the musicians aboard the Titanic, as envisioned by the comedic trio Pluck, through March 7, $25-$50. Bethesda Theatre, 7719 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda; 301-657-7827, bethesdatheatre.com.

FRIDAY ONLY Tosca: Love, seduction and intrigue fills this operatic masterpiece from Puccini presented by Virginia Opera, 8 p.m., $44-$86, GMU Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax; 888-945-2468, gmu.edu/cfa.

The Seafarer: Four Irish men play a game of poker with the devil in this Irish comedy by Conor McPherson, through Feb. 22. Studio Theatre, 1501 14th St. NW; 202-332-3300, studiotheatre.org.

PHOTOGRAPHY | 26,000 WORDS

EZRA GOZU MANSUT

HAND-PICKED: For her gallery's 8th annual International Photography Competition, curator Catriona Fraser selected 26 images, culled from more than 350 submissions. Opening Friday, it displays the best of the best, poignant, humorous or mysterious photos from artists all over the world.

The Winter's Tale: Hope and rebirth triumph over a husband's violent jealousy in Shakespeare's tale, through March 8, $25-$55, Folger Shakespeare Theatre, 201 East Capitol St. SE; 202-544-7077, folger.edu.

Zomo the Rabbit: A Hip-Hop Creation Myth: A rapping rabbit stars in this contemporary take on an African fable for kids, through March 8, $10-$21, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda; 301-280-1660, imaginationstage.org.

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SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS
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Presidential Family Fun Day

Saturday, February 14
11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Join in on these fun activities and more . . .

- Create Victorian valentines
- Listen to the Fifes and Drums of York Town
- Enjoy patriotic songs performed by a children's choral group, 12:30 p.m.
- Meet John and Abigail Adams, 1:15 p.m.
- Meet Abraham Lincoln, 2:30 p.m.
- Lane Smith book signing, 3:00 p.m.
- Reading and book signing of Hugh Howard's *The Painter's Chair*, 3:30 p.m.
- Take your picture with the Washington Nationals Racing Presidents

For more information, contact (202) 633-8501
Free admission

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APRIL 5

Online ticket buyers will receive one digital copy per transaction of Chris Cornell's new album, *Scream.*

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

emmet swimming
w/ Trustfall • Adam Swink • Mike Mallick *Early Show! 6pm Doors* .....F 13

BLISSPOP PRESENTS
Holy Ghost! (DJ Set) • **Mike Simonetti** (Italians Do It Better) • **Will Eastman** *Late Show! 11pm Doors* .....F 13
Sponsored by BrightestYoungThings.com. Live visuals by Kylos.

98.7 WMZQ *PRESENTS*
Rodney Atkins w/ The Lost Trailers .....Sa 14

FEBRUARY

Fujiya and Miyagi w/ School of Seven Bells .....Th 19

DRIVE-BY TRUCKERS w/ Bloodkin .....F 20 & Sa 21

SUB CITY PRESENTS THE TAKE ACTION TOUR 2009 featuring
Cute Is What We Aim For w/ Meg and Dia • Breathe Carolina • Every Avenue • Anarbor .....Su 22

FIRST SHOW SOLD OUT! SECOND SHOW ADDED!
Mos Def *Late Show! 9:30pm Doors* .....M 23

TOM JONES

FEBRUARY 25

Ben Kweller
w/ The Watson Twins & The Jones Street Boys .....Th 26

George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic
w/ Sam H .....F 27

Dan Auerbach (of The Black Keys)
w/ Hacienda & Those Darlins .....Sa 28

MARCH

Jason Isbell and the 400 Unit w/ Deer Tick .....Su 1

Missy Higgins & Justin Nozuka w/ Lenka .....M 2

SECOND NIGHT ADDED!
LUCINDA WILLIAMS w/ Buick 6 .....Tu 3 & W 4

Tindersticks .....Th 5

SECOND NIGHT ADDED!
Ani DiFranco .....F 6 & Sa 7
(Sa 7 - w/ special guest Chad Stokes)

WRNR PRESENTS
Lisa Hannigan w/ The Low Anthem .....Su 8

Bettye LaVette .....M 9

Bell X1 w/ Harlem Shakes *Early Show! 6pm Doors* .....Th 12

Ozomatli reunited with Chali 2na *Late Show! 10pm Doors* .....Th 12

The Feelies *Early Show! 7pm Doors* .....Sa 14

BLOWOFF featuring the DJ SOUNDS of **BOB MOULD & RICHARD MOREL** *21+ to enter.* .....Sa 14

Estelle .....Su 15

THE POGUES w/ Ben Nichols (of Lucero) .....W 18

Butch Walker and his Gang of Merry Musical Melodymakers .....Sa 21

MNB PRESENTS
Raphael Saadiq .....Tu 24

Booka Shade .....W 25

The Bad Plus .....Th 26

Primal Scream .....F 27

Gomez w/ Josh Ritter .....Su 29

BRENDON SMALL OF DETHKLOK/METALOCALYPSE backed by The School of Rock All Stars
w/ special guests Tragedy: A Metal Tribute to the Bee Gees .....M 30

Balkan Beat Box .....Tu 31

APRIL

The Presets w/ The Golden Filter .....W 1

APRIL 8 - SOLD OUT!
NEKO CASE w/ Crooked Fingers .....Th 9

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